

California State Archives
State Government Oral History Program

Oral History Interview

with

ROBERT G BEVERLY

California State Assembly 1967 1976
California State Senate 1976 1996

August 26 1997 and August 27 1997
Sacramento California

By Donald B Seney
California State Archives

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INTERVIEW HISTORY

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Interview Time and Place.

August 26 1997

Home of Senator Robert G. Beverly
Manhattan Beach California
Morning Session of two hours

August 26 1997 P.M.

Home of Senator Robert G. Beverly
Manhattan Beach California
Afternoon Session of two hours

August 27 1997 A.M.

Home of Senator Robert G. Beverly
Manhattan Beach California
Morning Session of two hours

August 26 1997 P.M.

Home of Senator Robert G. Beverly
Manhattan Beach California
Afternoon Session of two hours

Editing

Dr. Seney checked the verbatim manuscript of the interview against the original tape recordings, edited for punctuation, paragraphing, and spellings, and verified proper names. Insertions by the editor are bracketed. The interviewer also prepared the introductory materials and footnotes in the manuscript.

Senator Beverly reviewed a copy of the edited transcript and returned the transcript with only minor corrections

Papers.

No private papers were consulted by the interviewer for this interview

Tapes and Interview Records

The original tape recordings of the interview are in the University Archives The Library california State University Sacramento along with the records relating to the interview Master tapes are preserved at the California State Archives

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

Robert G. Beverly was born on July 1, 1925 in Boston, Massachusetts. At the age of eleven, he and his family moved to New York City. After a year and half, the family then moved to Teaneck, New Jersey. In 1939, the family moved again, this time to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr. Beverly's father had, through all these transfers, been employed by an insurance company.

Mr. Beverly served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the latter stages of World War II. In 1946, he married and settled in Los Angeles. He attended U.C.L.A., though he did not graduate. He entered Loyola Law School under a special program for veterans. He qualified for admission by having completed three years of undergraduate education at U.C.L.A. and passing a qualifying examination. After graduating from law school, he started a law firm with which he is still affiliated, with longtime Democratic State Senator from Los Angeles, Richard Richards.

During his time in law school and as a new lawyer, he was active in Republican Party politics. In 1958, he began his career in elective office by capturing a seat on the Manhattan Beach City Council. He also served as Mayor of Manhattan Beach, a position filled from among members of the city council. His service in local government afforded him wide contacts among other local government officials in Southern California, contacts he made good use of during his elections to the state legislature.

In 1967, he won a special election to the California State Assembly after the incumbent had died in office. He had run unsuccessfully for that post in the 1966 Republican primary election. Once in the Assembly, he rose quickly in influence. He chaired the Assembly Committee on Insurance and Finance during the Speakership of Republican Bob Monagan. When Monagan left the Assembly, he succeeded him as minority leader.

In 1976 Mr Beverly was elected to the California State Senate Through his relationship with Senator Ken Maddy and on the strength of his own abilities and reputation he was at the heart of the leadership struggles among the Republicans in the Senate during his twenty years of service in that body Senator Beverly held a number of important committee posts including the powerful position of Vice Chairman of the Appropriations Committee as well as membership on the Banking and Commerce Governmental Organization and Transportation Committees During his last five years in the Senate he served as one of the five members of the powerful Senate Rules Committee

During his time in the legislature Senator Beverly was known as a pro business moderate who enjoyed considerable labor support he also had pro choice views opposed off shore oil drilling supported mass transit and highways and was a strong supporter of public education He sponsored legislation that affected the business community local governments in his district increased penalties for home burglaries was a co sponsor of the death penalty and took an active part in the budgetary process by virtue of his service on the Appropriations Committee

After leaving office in 1996 he has remained active in Republican Party affairs He now also serves on the California State Lottery Commission a post he was appointed to by Governor Pete Wilson

Session 1 August 26 1997

[Begin Tape 1 Side A]

SENEY Today is August 26 1997 My name is Donald Seney and I m with
 Senator Robert Beverly in his home in Manhattan Beach
 Good morning Senator

BEVERLY Good morning

SENEY Let me begin by asking you to tell me a little bit about your family about
 your parents and where they were from their origins

BEVERLY My mother was from Boston New England Massachusetts I was born
 there My father I understand was an orphan I know he served in the
 Marine Corps under a different name in World War I under the name
 O Hearn but somewhere along the line it became Beverly He and my
 mother married in 1924 in the Boston area and I was born there in [July 1]
 1925

SENEY You know I hear a little Boston in your voice You must have lived there
 a while Did you grow up there?

BEVERLY Well until I was about 11 or so I moved to New York when my father
 was transferred to New York

SENEY What did he do?

BEVERLY He was in the insurance business an agent for a company

SENEY Whereabouts in New York did you go?

BEVERLY I went to PS 139

SENEY In New York City itself

BEVERLY Queens

SENEY In Queens

BEVERLY Yeah My mother called it Forest Hills' when it was Rego Park

SENEY Forest Hills is a little fancier address in Queens isn't it?

BEVERLY Quite a bit fancier

SENEY What do you remember about New York and your primary school?

BEVERLY I think it was the 6th grade I entered there in public school and they used to get me up and have me recite sentences like Park your car in Harvard Square and make fun of me [because of my Boston accent] I remember having trouble understanding the New York accent We lived in Queens for about a year year and a half then we moved to New Jersey which was sort of out in the country Teaneck New Jersey

SENEY And your father all the while was in the insurance business

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY Was he prospering? Is that why you were moving along? Was he moving

up in the company and doing better?

BEVERLY Well the move to New York was up in the company decidedly so He disliked Manhattan and disliked New York and that's one reason we moved to New Jersey to be in a suburb and then he took what I view as a demotion and transferred to Pittsburgh Pennsylvania in about 1939

SENEY How did you like New York?

BEVERLY I didn't like it We lived in Watertown Massachusetts a suburb of Boston when New England was country New York was a busy urban area

SENEY What about brothers and sisters?

BEVERLY No I had none

SENEY You're the only one

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY From Pittsburgh where did you go? Was your father in World War II? He would have been too old probably

BEVERLY World War I

SENEY But not in World War II

BEVERLY No He died when he was 41 I guess

SENEY Give me your birth date Senator please

BEVERLY July 1 1925

SENEY Okay

BEVERLY We moved to Pittsburgh about the time I was in the ninth grade as I remember. Lived in an area called Mt. Washington and then moved to a suburb a little further out called Mt. Lebanon which is a fairly high level income and education community. I graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School, started at the University of Pittsburgh in January of '43. I guess and went there one semester. Then I was facing the draft so I joined the Marine Corps. That's how I got to California and I just stayed.

SENEY You came out to where maybe San Diego to train?

BEVERLY I trained in Parris Island and Camp Lejeune in Carolina. I came out prepared to ship overseas to San Diego or Camp Pendleton, more particular. I then was re-transferred to the East. I never did go overseas.

SENEY But once you'd seen California, this was where you wanted to live.

BEVERLY Yeah. I met my now wife in Pittsburgh on leave. We'd both gone to the same high school. I knew her brother and she moved out to California in the meantime. Her older brother and widowed mother moved out here. He was in the Air Force. I would visit her on occasion when I was out here in California. We married in 1946 and we've been married ever since.

SENEY And living here a long time.

BEVERLY Yeah In the Los Angeles area all that time

SENEY Right You know one of the things we're interested in is what goes in to forming a person like your's political outlook and political values and so forth Do you remember anything from your childhood and up to the time you got here that influenced you?

BEVERLY My father was interested in politics and I was an activist I remember attending torch light parades in the 1932 campaign in Boston I saw President [Franklin D] Roosevelt and I guess the Republican candidate was [Alfred] Landon as I remember

SENEY Well in '32 I think

BEVERLY No '32 was [Herbert] Hoover

SENEY Right right

BEVERLY I guess I really remember the '36 campaign

SENEY Yes that would have been Landon Your father was a Democrat was he?

BEVERLY No a Republican

SENEY And you've been a life long Republican Do you ascribe it to your parents influence?

BEVERLY I guess so more than anything That was the initial [influence]

SENEY That's usually the way it works we end up having the political outlook of our parents

Any teachers that impressed you or shaped the way you think?

BEVERLY Not really I don't recall any

SENEY Okay Well let's go back up then to 1946 You've settled here in the Los Angeles area by 1946?

BEVERLY I was attending UCLA [University of California at Los Angeles] My wife worked at University Extension UCLA and so did I part time I've been close to the University ever since I didn't graduate from UCLA I applied to go to Loyola Law School under the veteran's program where you needed to pass an exam plus have two or three years of college I had the three years and passed the test and entered law school under that program

SENEY Would that have been in 1949 maybe?

BEVERLY Forty eight

SENEY And so 51 you graduated?

BEVERLY Fifty one I graduated

SENEY And you hung out your shingle here? When did you come to Manhattan Beach?

BEVERLY Let's see Right after we married I was still in the Marine Corps That was in May of 1946 I was discharged in July My wife and I got a little apartment in Los Angeles near the downtown area It was a garage

apartment and upstairs was a student by the name of George Lowerre who was a law student and I got some interest from him in law school and the law. Then I moved after a few months to the servants quarters of a large estate over on Buckingham Road. I forget what they call the area now. It may come to me. It's an area of old homes, big homes, and I was the gardener. In return for these quarters I took care of the property and the yard, cutting the lawn and so forth.

SENEY That's not Hancock Park, is it?

BEVERLY No, it's like Hancock Park. It's a similar area. I can't think of it. But across the street was a justice of the District Court of Appeal named Minor Moore, an elderly gentleman, and he took an interest in my being a student and our being newlyweds. And he would come across the street and chat with me and we'd go over to his house for ice cream or dessert and he would talk about the law and discuss his opinions, bring home advance sheets, and so my interest was peaked again. That's when I applied for Loyola. In the second year of law school he hired me as a secretary, a law clerk. And so I went to school early morning and in the evening and law clerk during the day. During that period, just before graduation, we bought a home in Westchester, an area near the airport in Los Angeles. The law student who had lived upstairs at that early address on Thurman

Avenue had roots in Manhattan Beach and he opened an office down here
So I did some research work for him on the side and when I finally
graduated I stayed with the court for a while maybe up to a year then I
left and joined this fellow full time At the time I joined his law firm we
also bought a home in Manhattan Beach We sold our Westchester home
and moved here

So I practiced with him for two or three years We didn't make
much money and he had a large family of six kids and I had two by then
So I heard about an opening with a lawyer downtown a fellow named
Glenn Watson and I went to work for Watson

SENEY By downtown do you mean in Los Angeles itself?

BEVERLY Downtown Los Angeles Just the two of us practicing Ultimately about
1954 a young man named [Senator] Richard Richards was elected to the
State Senate in the days when Los Angeles only had one Senator and
Dick Richards was in a position to be a rainmaker and bring a lot of
business to a firm We established a firm rather loosely connected at first
Richard Watson and several other names And the firm is still in existence
as Richard Watson & Gershon about 65 lawyers I'm still
affiliated with them although not very active

SENEY And that's the law firm you've been a part of since that point

BEVERLY Since that time

SENEY How many children do you have?

BEVERLY Four

SENEY I know I've run across references to your son Robert who has been active in politics himself

BEVERLY Well Robert is just a volunteer My son William is the more active

SENEY I'm sorry

BEVERLY William is the older son

SENEY Who has been on this school board and

BEVERLY He's on the El Camino College Board of Trustees and he's served on the Manhattan Beach or the South Bay Union High School District I guess it was

SENEY We do want to know a little about your children When were each of them born and what do they do?

BEVERLY Well Barbara Samson the oldest was born in 1948 December 1948 She's now married and living in Santa Cruz as a real estate agent at least part time Bill is the one we mentioned who's active in politics He ran for Congress in let's see when it was the year [Congressman Jane

Harman] was elected to Congress whenever that was It's 88 or '92¹
Probably '92 And he practices law in Torrance He was born in 1950 in
August and in 1952 my son Robert was born He's a resident of
Manhattan Beach So is Bill by the way Robert is co owner of a sports
bar called Grunions here in Manhattan Beach Kind of an entrepreneur
and a hustler into all kinds of ventures and works like the devil Believes
strongly in the work ethic Youngest son is Brian Beverly he was born in
1954 who is a key grip in the film industry making mostly videos and
advertisements rather than films commercials He lives here with a wife
and two children in Manhattan Beach also My son Bob has two children
also

SENEY So you have four grandchildren or more

BEVERLY Well we have ten actually My daughter acquired a couple by marrying a
widower

SENEY That's very nice Let me go back to the law firm because one of the
references that I have is that you were at one point city attorney here in
Manhattan Beach

BEVERLY No I was a member of the city council and mayor of Manhattan Beach

¹ November 3 1992

SENEY But not city attorney

BEVERLY No I was city attorney of a number of other cities

SENEY Because your law firm specialized did it not in doing work for cities?

BEVERLY Well at that time we had substantial city work I wouldn't say we specialized in it Watson and I did municipal work Since then it's probably the number one active firm representing cities It represents 18 to 20 cities now I think

SENEY These I take it would be smaller cities Now I saw a reference to the City of Industry also that your firm represented as city attorney So rather than having their own city attorney they would contract with your firm to do what a city attorney would normally do which is to say defend them in lawsuits and well what did you do for the cities?

BEVERLY Well we'd defend in lawsuits drafted the ordinances and resolutions attended the council meeting advise them of proceedings Generally we worked for the city

SENEY Did that get you interested in being on the Manhattan Beach City Council? What got you interested in doing that?

BEVERLY Well I'd always been involved in politics in Republican politics I was a member of the Young Republicans as soon as I got out of law school maybe even before and worked in campaigns helping candidates

SENEY You must have worked in Richard Richards' campaign

BEVERLY Well I was somewhat neutral in that

SENEY You're smiling

BEVERLY He was a Democrat

SENEY That's right he is a Democrat isn't he? I'd forgotten that right

BEVERLY He's now deceased by the way

SENEY Right yes Known as Double Dick

BEVERLY That's right He was state senator two terms in L A two four year terms and ran for the U S Senate against [Senator Thomas H] Tom Kuchel twice and was defeated twice He and I were the only active political partners in the firm I was on the Republican side he was on the Democrat [side]

SENEY That's not unusual in firms is it to have someone who handles the Republican side and someone who handles the Democratic side of things

BEVERLY True It's often the case On the local politics issue it was about 1956 there was a lawyer by the name of Tom Foye later a superior court judge who was mayor of Manhattan Beach and we were friends through the legal circles and he was looking for someone to serve on the planning commission So he asked me about it and I agreed to serve on the commission When I got interested in the city council then I think two

years later there was a situation where two of the members of the council were not running for reelection and I ran somewhat as the dark horse and won walking away actually So I served on that council for nine years was elected three times about half that time I was mayor The council selected the mayor

SENEY Let me ask you Senator how do you go from being a dark horse to walking away with it?

BEVERLY Maybe it was a weak field I don't know One was a long time incumbent who had been defeated in the last election but staged a comeback and he was popular enough to win but not that popular

SENEY What kind of a campaign did you put on?

BEVERLY Well mostly a volunteer campaign homemade signs brochures candidates nights

SENEY Walking precincts?

BEVERLY Not very much Coffees home coffees that sort of thing At that time there was about 30 000 population then

SENEY What is it now do you think?

BEVERLY Not much more thirty five thirty six The child population has diminished Lots of yuppies I guess the number of children is on the grow again They reopened a school It was an elementary school that

was closed down

SENEY You know as I found your house today and looked a little bit at Manhattan Beach because I got here a few minutes early as I commented to you before we started recording it doesn't look to me like it's changed a whole lot over the years

BEVERLY No the major changes are the older beach homes coming down and more substantial large dwellings going in Pretty well to do population

SENEY Right This is a very affluent area isn't it and the homes would be rather expensive here I would think at this point

BEVERLY They are The standard lot at least in the area near the ocean is 30 x 90 feet Not very large

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Most of my law partners rather interestingly lived in San Marino or La Cañada or Pasadena They couldn't understand why anyone would live in Manhattan Beach But I always enjoyed it When you came home at night it was a different world You'd relax in a pair of shorts and a sweatshirt You could go to a fine restaurant and dine in that attire The gentleman sitting next to you might be a nuclear physicist or a surf bum you couldn't tell the difference It's a laid back community

SENEY Well let me say we're sitting here in your living room area and looking

out right at the ocean I mean how many blocks are we? A couple of blocks only from the ocean

BEVERLY Two short blocks

SENEY And it's a beautiful day and the beach is filling with people and it's going to be warm and lovely It's obvious why it's attractive

What was it like being on the Manhattan Beach City Council?

What kind of things would you deal with?

BEVERLY Most of the controversy at the time was over zoning or the controversy of general plan I guess basically to hold down growth to balance the desires of the inhabitants We had then controversy with the county The county had plans for developing parking lots on the beach along an old railroad right of way that runs along the beach area We resisted that for the most part In fact we're in litigation over it

SENEY Still today?

BEVERLY It was land use that was the principal area of interest and activity There was also a push for a balanced commercial activity particularly up on Sepulveda Boulevard Pacific Coast Highway We attempted to persuade industry and commerce to settle here We were active in getting TRW for example when they expanded its Redondo Beach facilities to come into Manhattan Beach So we looked for clean industry and sales tax revenue

SENEY That's an area though that's back from the beach area that you're discussing

BEVERLY About a mile back

SENEY You know often in small towns the politics it's not necessarily what we would call in a derogatory sense a machine but there's a kind of circle of politically active people who sort of guide the community if they don't run it. Was that the case here in Manhattan Beach?

BEVERLY Yeah to a degree. For example the town traditionally had been divided geographically the beach area the tree section which is just east of the beach area and then the back country which is east of the tree area. If you were east of Sepulveda in those days you didn't count for anything. They had no members on the council. For the most part the majority lived in the so-called sand area the beach area. Maybe one or two from the trees. I think when I ran I lived in the trees but we moved. Probably purchased during that campaign the house in the beach area. And there was also a division between the business community the merchants and the average citizen. The business community was pushing for more high rise facilities that sort of thing more activity more action and there was a resistance to that. I was able to get embraced by both the business community and the homeowner groups fortunately. I was also active in

the Republican Party as a volunteer So I had that base as well

SENEY When this lawyer friend of yours who was the mayor asked you to be on the city planning commission was that kind of an apprenticeship do you think? Was he kind of looking you over to see what kind of a guy you were how you'd handle those responsibilities? And then did he subsequently encourage you to run for the city council?

BEVERLY I don't think in making his selection he was looking for a council candidate or had that in mind but it had been the case that very often the council members came from that planning commission It was the most active important commission in the city He did support me when I ran strongly

SENEY And that must have been helpful

BEVERLY I'm sure it was In fact he and another lawyer named Bill Sweeney he Tom Foye were active in the Catholic community and they formed the church The main Catholic church in town is the American Martyrs Parish and they formed an American Martyrs Committee for Beverly and I was not a Catholic or a member of the parish but it was very helpful

SENEY Your background is Irish

BEVERLY As I said I had a grandmother named O'Hearn

SENEY Oh your mother was not Irish then

BEVERLY No

SENEY I see Because they might assume with an Irish background that you were Catholic but they knew better probably

BEVERLY And I had been Loyola educated as well

SENEY That's right And so you said the mayor's office rotates the the city council selects the mayor from among its own numbers How is it different being mayor as opposed to just being on the city council?

BEVERLY You had no more power than a councilman One vote the same And you were active in the ceremonial functions representing the city at various meetings and cutting the ribbons and speaking and that sort of thing

SENEY You know one of the things I do want to ask you about is Republican Party affairs all the way up the line in terms of Republican Party activity I've interviewed a number of people some of them prominent people who've been Republican activists and as opposed to the Democrats Republicans don't talk so much about party affairs I hope you'll be an exception for me

BEVERLY We'll see

SENEY You said you were active in Republican affairs during this period What kinds of things were you doing?

BEVERLY I worked on campaigns We had an assemblyman named [Assemblyman

Charles Edward] Charles Chapel for many years and I supported Charlie and that started when I was living in Westchester when I joined the Young Republican Club in Westchester I contributed some money I didn't have much But I was involved with holding coffees for people helping with mailers in the days when we licked stamps and put them on the envelopes ourselves before the computerization I think I was on the [Republican] State Central Committee at that time also Yes I was

SENEY How would that have worked? How would you at that point been appointed to the State Central Committee? Would the assemblyman have been a key person in doing that?

BEVERLY Let me think Officeholders and nominees have always had the power to appoint members to the Central Committee I guess I was appointed by Chapel

SENEY They also have power to appoint to the county central committee as well

BEVERLY No they're elected there

SENEY They're elected here

BEVERLY They're elected by Assembly district

SENEY I see What was it like serving on the State Central Committee?

BEVERLY Well it wasn't very demanding We had an annual convention Really not very exciting If you're a political junkie I suppose it is to a degree At

least you're in on what's going on all the time and you meet the candidates and as a young lawyer and an interested politician it was a plus for me

SENEY What was your motivation do you think for becoming so active in party affairs?

BEVERLY Well I've always had an interest I remember campaigning leading a little parade in Watertown Massachusetts for Alf Landon and being victims of stonings!

SENEY I'll bet

BEVERLY I don't know what kindled it I can't remember initially I guess my father's interest although he was not an active volunteer but he was interested and discussed politics

SENEY Some people just seem to have politics in their blood Would you describe yourself that way do you think?

BEVERLY Oh I wouldn't go that far You know the numbers of lawyers was very small by comparison in those days I think my Bar number was twenty two thousand and something What is it now? A hundred and thirty thousand something? And lawyers naturally were involved in politics it seemed just by the nature of the profession The numbers in the State Legislature were extraordinarily high and so forth That's changed And it was partly a vehicle for looking for law business finding

law business as well

SENEY Right I was going to ask you about that because these were the days before lawyers could advertise and one of the few ways you could get your name out as a lawyer would be by being active in politics

BEVERLY That s right

SENEY At what point did you decide to run and what was your motivation for running for the Assembly?

BEVERLY Well in 1966 the long time incumbent Charles Chapel was in and I'd long supported him and we had a falling out I was mayor of the city

SENEY Let me turn this over Senator

[Begin Tape 1 Side B]

BEVERLY I had a falling out with our assemblyman Charles Chapel over a couple of issues One I remember had to do with the National Guard armory site that was in Manhattan Beach The city had originally donated the land to the National Guard and they had an excess of land they weren t using at all We needed a site for a city yard so we wanted part of the property back The Guard was reluctant but not hard lined against it that reconveyance but it took legislation to accomplish it and Chapel was dragging his feet and wouldn't do it for a variety of reasons some political

I got mad at him and I filed and ran against him in the primary and he had been voted by the press the worst assemblyman least effective and a few other things He was a colorful odd character

SENEY And had been in a long time?

BEVERLY Yeah 16 18 years So I ran against him I lost I ran a pretty good campaign but we were defeated That was the year [Governor Ronald] Reagan ran [1966] and was nominated and won the governorship I endorsed Charlie after the defeat loyal Republican that I was and regrettably he died in February after assuming office in January and there was a special election I had run so my friends who supported me wanted me to run again I was a candidate won the primary and went on to victory in May of 1967

SENEY Do you remember how much you spent in that first primary the regular June primary against Chapel?

BEVERLY My best recollection is probably about \$20 000

SENEY Was that a great deal of money in those days?

BEVERLY No

SENEY Not much at all What would you have spent that on?

BEVERLY Primarily mail

SENEY So maybe a billboard or two?

BEVERLY Yeah but mostly mail stamps Postage was a nickel then by the way

First Class

SENEY And couldn't you mail political stuff a little cheaper even than that? Was it a 3 cent stamp?

BEVERLY I don't remember I don't think so We did use newspaper ads too

SENEY And you had a corps of volunteers that had helped you in your city council campaigns I take it How did you broaden out from Manhattan Beach which would only have been a small part of the Assembly district to the rest of the district

BEVERLY Well I had run against Charlie so I had been exposed Assembly districtwide

SENEY I'm thinking of that first time when you ran the first time against him in the primary

BEVERLY I was active as a councilman In the League of California Cities I was president of the League the L A [Los Angeles] division of the League so I had a natural base in the various city councils of what was it probably nine or ten cities in the district and I built from there Also I had newspaper support I don't remember who endorsed me when I ran against Chapel but I got lots of favorable press and editorial comment short of an endorsement

- SENEY Would this require going to the editors and chatting with them and getting your point of view across?
- BEVERLY Sure Most of whom I was acquainted with through local government anyway but it did Sometimes I met with editorial boards generally one man of the newspaper the big paper down here was the copley press That s the South Bay Breeze and the most other active paper was the Palos Verdes Peninsula News
- SENEY And you've always had good relations with them I take it from the very beginning?
- BEVERLY Yeah
- SENEY And that s something that you regard as important to cultivate I would think
- BEVERLY It was probably more important then than now but I think lots of people just followed the endorsement recommendations of the paper
- SENEY And so that would again entail approaching the editor chatting with them letting out what your program happened to be
- BEVERLY I remember one publisher used to see to it that I got the cheapest advertising rate available I think it was for religious purposes or something There were ways of helping you if they wanted to Plus running your press releases and photos and what have you

SENEY And displaying those prominently with the right spin on them. You know at this time in the Legislature the Republicans had become active and Gaylord Parkinson is Republican chairman. I'm sure you must have known him.

BEVERLY Yes.

SENEY Who was active in the Cal Plan along with Mr. Monagan?

BEVERLY He's the one who coined the Eleventh Commandment?

SENEY No. Reagan did that. That you shall never criticize another Republican. I'm thinking of Gaylord [Parkinson] whom [Assemblyman] Bob Monagan refers to as the state chairman who

BEVERLY Yeah, he's from San Diego.

SENEY I think he was. He was a physician. I think

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY This was a plan that was hatched by Mr. Parkinson. Monagan gives him full credit for it in the '60s as a plan to take back the Legislature for the reapportionment which would occur in 1970. I was wondering if in your campaign when you ran in May if these people took any interest in your candidacy or contributed if you recall.

BEVERLY Oh, yeah. Prior to Charlie's death I'd always been close to [Lt Governor Robert H.] Bob Finch who ran for Congress twice out of Inglewood.

Finch was out of the Marine Corps like I was and a new lawyer so we had lots in common and I worked in his campaign very actively. He lost both times to [Congressman] Cecil [R.] King from San Pedro. When Finch was elected lieutenant governor at the time Reagan was elected governor, I was a little tired of practicing law and so forth and I looked into going with the administration. There was a kind of Republican elation about the results of that campaign, the upset of [Governor Edmund G.] Brown and so forth. So finally I was about to be appointed executive officer of the it was a body that dealt with local government. I can't remember that name of it Intergovernmental Relations Commission or something like that. And I was going to take a leave from my law firm and accept that appointment. Charlie died in February so I declined the appointment and decided to run for the Assembly.

SENEY You know, you have the reputation of being a moderate Republican, sort of in the line of Finch and Kuchel, probably that you'd consider those to be people you'd agree with.

BEVERLY And Monagan.

SENEY Yes, of course. And the Reagan people were much more conservative and much more ideologically oriented and that didn't seem to be an obstacle to your appointment or were there problems about that?

BEVERLY To a degree there was some discussion of that I know but I had a lot of friends and I had a long record of service in the party supporting candidates of both wings whoever was the nominee And I endorsed Reagan after well I guess after I lost the primary

SENEY Did you support George Christopher in the primary against Reagan?

BEVERLY Yes Not actively but I had known him through local government circles He was mayor of San Francisco

SENEY And my understanding is that that was taken seriously by the Reagan people as a sign of lack of fervor and loyalty that is the people who had been on the Christopher side were kind of shunned Is that your general feeling too?

BEVERLY Yeah I'm not sure it ever came out that I was a Christopher backer but I had the support of Monagan and Finch and some others who were active in the party

SENEY During this period that you were active in the party from the time you leave law school until the election of Mr Reagan you're really there to see the split developing in the Republican Party because the party you became a volunteer in was really a party that represented [Governor] Earl Warren's moderate views and [Governor] Goodwin Knight's moderate views and Tom Kuchel's moderate views but then it begins to get more

conservative at least one wing of it doesn't it?

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Can you talk a little bit about that and what you observed about that?

BEVERLY The split was really driven home at the 1964 Republican Convention in San Francisco when they booed [Nelson] Rockefeller I guess and Kuchel and I remember both left town before the convention was over I attended that convention not as a delegate just as a guest but I attended sessions and I was very upset with that very unhappy about the party but I still remained loyal And Reagan was an exciting candidate I have to say it I liked him personally and individually although he was far more conservative than I

SENEY He had a personality that blunted that didn't he that made you look past his views and see him more as a person perhaps?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY There was the California Republican Assembly [CRA] Were you active in that part of the party?

BEVERLY No At one time the California Republican Assembly was much more moderate than it is now I think I was a member and I remember [Assemblyman] George [W] Milias near the San Jose area I think he'd been a president and he was certainly a moderate when he was

in the Assembly. In later years they did not support me although they were never able to do away with me. We formed our own club down here in the South Bay area. We called it the Lincoln Club although it was not associated with the Finance Lincoln Clubs money raisers and we formed it as an independent Republican club not wedded to UROC [United Republicans of California] or CRA or whatever else.

SENEY UROC was United Republicans of California

BEVERLY Yeah That was another conservative group

SENEY Right More conservative at this point than the CRA was

BEVERLY Probably at that point. Of course they faded away but they were probably less conservative. But this district down here although it's always been Republican when I say always it's now represented by two Democrats the lines have changed it never was as conservative as it was labeled in my opinion. I used to agonize over some votes like gay rights and things like that guns and I voted the more moderate position on a number of those issues and it never did hurt me that I could see

SENEY Well you supported the assault weapons ban for example and you didn't get any flack from that? We've jumped ahead now quite a time period

BEVERLY I received flack. There was a lot of opposition to those guns bills but all of our surveys and we did some surveys in connection with campaigns

and otherwise showed there was substantial support for doing away with those weapons and for gun control

SENEY Here in the district you mean In your district

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY Let me go back to the Assembly because there s some things I want to ask you about in the Assembly Mr Monagan at this point is the minority leader is he not?

BEVERLY Yes He was minority leader when I came in

SENEY He had replaced [Assemblyman Joseph C] Joe Shell who had plans to run for governor I think Monagan says in an interview that was done with him some time ago that Shell had become preoccupied with running for governor and had lost interest in the Assembly minority leadership and Monagan was able to take over When did you meet Monagan by the way? It must have been prior to when you entered the Assembly

BEVERLY Oh yeah I probably met him at a Republican convention or a platform drafting committee something like that I don t remember precisely I was close to Monagan to [Assemblyman John G] Jack Veneman who was there then in the Assembly to [Assemblyman William T] Bill Bagley They all helped me in my election When I ran for the Assembly successfully in 1967 my major opponent was the widow of Charles

Chapel and she had lined up a lot of Sacramento support third house support and some of the members who didn't know me But Monagan Bagley Veneman [Assemblyman Eugene A] Chappie probably one or two others were with me

SENEY [Assemblyman William] Lancaster maybe?

BEVERLY He came later

SENEY He comes later?

BEVERLY Yeah He wasn't there then But Bob Finch was a significant factor

SENEY You made mention of or made mention apparently in a sort of discussion group about the Legislature a group called the Dirty Seven Is this who you're talking about now?

BEVERLY The Dirty Seven probably was nearer ten It included Monagan Veneman Bagley Gene Chappie [Assemblyman] Gordon [W] Duffy It was the moderates [Assemblyman] Jerry Lewis who later came to the Assembly was a member and you mentioned Lancaster Oh [Assemblyman Kenneth L] Ken Maddy The group theoretically still exists although we haven't met for a long time

SENEY A few of the members have died Gene Chappie has died

BEVERLY Chappie died He went to Congress later and died Veneman died

SENEY I guess it was your moderate political views was the glue that held you

together but what were you up to? What were you meeting about and talking about?

BEVERLY Well the Republican Caucus in the Assembly less so in the Senate I guess was always split between the moderates and the conservatives and we were the Monagan support group There were some who wanted someone other than Monagan as speaker or as minority leader after he lost the speakership and our group generally was formed to support Monagan And most of us were chairmen of important committees so it was a mutual support group

SENEY During Monagan's speakership

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY You know I know that you entered the Assembly in May of '67 because immediately upon your election you take the Oath of Office when you do a special election and it seems to me the things that I've read about you and the information I've gathered about you that you very quickly became an influential member

BEVERLY Well I guess I became a chairman of a very important committee Finance and Insurance when Monagan took over as speaker in nineteen sixty nine we got the majority in the '68 election so it was '69 at the beginning of the session I think I was appointed chairman of Judiciary

first then there was a juggling of committee assignments

SENEY What caused the juggling?

BEVERLY Oh Veneman left to go with the Nixon administration as Undersecretary of Welfare to join Bob Finch And Bagley was a very close friend of Finch and Veneman particularly Veneman and he wanted to head the Health and Welfare Committee that would be dealing with Jack Veneman so it opened Judiciary I'm a little vague on the details now It opened several committees including Finance and Insurance and I ended up there

SENEY You ended up on Finance and Insurance

BEVERLY As chairman

SENEY That's an important committee not only in terms of the substance of the legislation that it oversees but also because it's a prime money raising committee

BEVERLY All the banks savings and loans are under the committee all insurance companies The committees have since been split

SENEY Right There's a term for that a juice committee

BEVERLY Right

SENEY When you were assigned to that was it simply taken for granted that you were going to be a key person in terms of raising funds?

BEVERLY Well I don't know whether that was you'd have to ask the appointing authority on that I'm not sure

SENEY I'm wondering if he has a chat with you and says Listen Bob we want you to handle Finance and Insurance and you know what that means

BEVERLY I had no discussion beforehand before the appointment It came about afterward that we had one of the first major fund raisers in Sacramento Money was not raised except by incumbents and candidates in Sacramento But we had one of the major fund raisers and I did discuss with Monagan that but that was after the appointment

SENEY You know it's interesting to me I've interviewed a number of people one of them including Gene Chappie He was Welfare Committee chairman under [Speaker of the Assembly Jesse M.] Unruh And I asked him What did he say to you when he made you chair of this committee? Did he give you marching orders? Did he lay out a series of things he wanted you to do? He said No He just said Do a good job and I want you to keep a Korean man

BEVERLY Right Who later worked with Bob Finch

SENEY Yes I want you to keep him on as chief consultant Apparently he's a brilliant fellow

BEVERLY Yes he's blind

SENEY Yes exactly and brilliant It surprised me that more was not said and I take it this Monagan was the same way

BEVERLY Exactly

SENEY No ' this is how we want you to handle things Just Bob we want you to take Insurance and

BEVERLY Monagan made [Assemblyman] Bob Moretti chairman of what was it called then Government Administrations?

SENEY Government Organization

BEVERLY Yeah I was thinking the name was different I guess not Government Organization which handled gambling and liquor legislation He probably regretted it later

SENEY You know he was criticized for that Did you criticize him for that?

BEVERLY No I didn't I was pretty new on the block

SENEY And the reason you bring up that he was criticized for that is of course Mr Moretti used that position to raise a good deal of money and took away the Republican majority in 1970 and a lot of Republicans think that if he hadn't had access to all that money that the Republicans would have stayed in power in that election Did you feel that way?

BEVERLY I don't recall feeling strongly about it It was a factor no question because Moretti did raise a lot of money But campaign reporting and

recording were so loose in those days

SENEY There really wasn't any to speak of was there?

BEVERLY No

SENEY I mean you could raise money as you saw fit. If I wanted to give you a check I could give you a check. If I wanted to give you cash I could give you cash.

BEVERLY That's right

SENEY And subsequent to my donation would you have to report that to anyone at that point?

BEVERLY You were supposed to. I think the reporting was loose.

SENEY You could if you wanted to sort of thing.

BEVERLY Well I think the statute was there that you were supposed to report everything but there was no follow up no checking no reviewing no auditing.

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Back to that Welfare Committee that was not a very desirable committee. Nobody really wanted it probably a few inner city folks but Bagley wanted it because of the Veneman Finch connection. And when Chappie had it it did not include health by the way I think it was just welfare.

SENEY It was just welfare right. But there was major legislation remember that

went through that during that period

BEVERLY Yeah before I got there I think It was Medicare Medi Cal That's true
And Veneman wasn't very active in that

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Because he'd been chairman

SENEY And I asked Chappie if he thought that Unruh had made him chair of that
committee because now there was a Republican governor and it would be
easier to get the welfare reform through and Chappie who is a very
blunt spoken person

BEVERLY I'll say

SENEY and he said You know I never thought of that and I believed him that
he hadn't thought of it in that way I don't know if that was part of Unruh's
tactics or not but that's another matter

During this how would you characterize Monagan's speakership?
How would you describe it? And Mr Monagan too in terms of the sort of
person he is

BEVERLY Well in my view Monagan was one of the finest legislators and leaders
I've worked with in politics over the years He was hardworking
articulate moderate pleasant personality all around good legislator His
leadership was rather quiet he wasn't very flamboyant But he had certain

roll calls he kept on his desk or on his office wall I forget where you had to have voted for the budget probably the reapportionment plan I've forgotten There were three or four issues that were guides If you hadn't voted right in that you weren't going to get trips or favorable committee appointments or anything else I think I've heard the phrase he ran it like a rotary club I don't think that's accurate He was a strong leader

SENEY But he succeeded someone who was even stronger

BEVERLY That's true

SENEY In terms of Mr. Unruh and you actually came in when Unruh was still the speaker How would you describe him?

BEVERLY Well he was all those things I mentioned about Monagan although not as moderate of course

SENEY Did you like him? Was he a likable person do you think?

BEVERLY I got along with him In fact he sent a signal to me during the campaign that he might help me This district was going to go Republican and he sure as hell didn't want a couple of the real conservatives like the widow who was running from Jesse's standpoint and I rejected his help

SENEY How does a signal like that come?

BEVERLY Someone talked to me I forget who it was now One of his co-assemblymen Democratic assemblymen said You know Jesse might

want to help you I used to go to Sacramento fairly frequently as a lawyer appearing for cities and seeing Dick Richards and so forth so I knew a lot of members from both the Senate and the Assembly

SENEY So you were hardly a stranger to the process when you were elected yourself

BEVERLY That s true

SENEY And they knew you somewhat

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY What was it that kept you from taking his offer which I take it was money was a campaign contribution

BEVERLY Well I thought I could win without it and I didn t want to be beholden to him and I was happy I had rejected it

SENEY How so?

BEVERLY It left me more independent But Jesse gave me good assignments The F&I [Finance and Insurance] Committee they kept a seat open for me Judiciary Local Government

[Begin Tape 2 Side A]

SENEY Senator you were just saying that Jesse Unruh had kept a seat open for you on the Finance and Insurance Committee Why would he do that?

BEVERLY Well you feel an obligation to appoint X number of Republicans and Democrats to a committee You're going to appoint a majority of Democrats generally if you're the Democratic speaker and he felt he could get along with a moderate Republican like Beverly who was of the same pattern as Monagan Bagley Veneman a few others

SENEY And again even though you're coming in as a new person you've been around enough that he knows what your outlook and what your views are because of your appearing before the Legislature

BEVERLY I think so I'd known Jesse He was the next door district almost but when he was a young assemblyman I was involved in litigation involving the Gardena Card Clubs I think my partner and I represented a taxicab company that was in constant conflict with the clubs and Unruh was carrying legislation to outlaw draw poker or to curtail it in some fashion and we got acquainted during that because of our interest in the clubs

SENEY What would be just as an aside the point of conflict between the taxicab companies and the card clubs?

BEVERLY The card clubs were running limousines running free transportation to the clubs picking up people all over the city and bringing them in taking business away from the cabs

SENEY Now I understand What was it like to be a member once you arrived

in the Legislature rather than someone who had come up testifying and trying to influence the process from the outside?

BEVERLY Well I was comfortable but the view from the inside is different There s a certain camaraderie that only exists among members You may be an active staffer or a third house candidate but it s still a little bit different

SENEY Can you talk a little bit about that how that s different?

BEVERLY Well I m trying to think how would I express it At that time anyway there was a certain trust and relationship between the members that was a pretty strong bond You didn t embarrass another legislator in front of his constituents or in his position on the floor or whatever Rare exceptions There was a respect and a tolerance that existed that I don t think exists as much today

SENEY You know I ve had other people describe it and some people have written about it I m sure you ve seen Senator [James R] Mills book ² what did he call it *A Disorderly House*? I m not sure people were happy with that description of it but he describes the same thing you re alluding to a kind of sense of camaraderie and so forth Others have ascribed it I think he does too to the fact that most members went up themselves to

² James R. Mills *A Disorderly House The Brown Unruh Years in Sacramento* Heyday Books (Berkeley Ca) 1987

Sacramento without their families in those days because the Legislature was still then pretty much a part time body and that that had a big influence on creating this sense of rapport and camaraderie. Would you agree with that analysis?

BEVERLY I would. And also the fact that there was no Proposition 9³ limiting entertainment and lobbyist treats and so forth. Now a committee dinner is an exception. We used to have regular dinners here. Finance and Insurance Committee would have a dinner hosted by somebody in the industry but it made for a social get together at least once a month if not more frequently.

SENEY One of the reasons that Proposition 9 in 1974 put an end to that was the outside perception that just what you've described is maybe kind of questionable that is some part of the industry hosting a committee dinner. How would you deal with that kind of criticism? What would you say to them?

BEVERLY I can't quarrel with the fact that the perception is true. It's probably not a good idea. But I don't think the product has changed as a result of the change. It's no better the legislative product. And it made for a more

³ June 4, 1974

harmonious life up there But who's to say

SENEY You know there used to be a practice and maybe it still goes on in the Texas Legislature where the transportation lobbyists hosted a lunch free lunch everyday a buffet very fancy in the big hotel in Austin whatever the main one was and the legislators got very used to that And when they decided that it was getting too expensive to do and decided to stop it the legislators were very upset The point of this is that what had started out as kind of a way of currying favor with the legislators had developed into an expectation on the part of the legislators This is just something you have to do anyway And the point was that it didn't gain them any influence to do it anymore it'd been going on so long it was just part of the background But taking it away caused them problems Would you look at these dinners you describe

BEVERLY That's probably true because we had we didn't have a daily hosted lunch but on probably three days a week there was a lunch hosted by the health group, the insurance industry or racing or whatever And that would be accurate

SENEY That's how you would feel about those that they were just like a parking place or something like that It's just something that came with the job

BEVERLY It was a place where you got acquainted with your fellow legislators Hell

in the last couple of years up there there were legislators I never met and I went out of my way to try and meet new legislators One of the first things I always did in the first of the year was get around to the various offices So it made for communication and communication with the third house Some people won't even see third house people now

SENEY You mean lobbyists when you say third house

BEVERLY Yeah And I had an open door policy any lobbyist was welcome to come to me unless he lied to me on occasion That was very rare

SENEY And if they had?

BEVERLY The door was closed

SENEY Back to the Monagan speakership you know one of the things that he said that Republicans were trying to achieve that I mentioned earlier was to make sure the Republicans had a majority in 1970 so that reapportionment could be controlled for obvious reasons

BEVERLY Seventy was our target date Sixty eight was a bit of a surprise that we won the majority

SENEY Were you involved in that? Were you part of the group that evolved that plan maybe or helped to implement that plan and target the districts? As he describes the Cal Plan what you were doing instead of giving money to every Republican running for the Assembly you were selecting key

districts that you thought you had a good chance of winning Were you involved in that?

BEVERLY Not in the planning I think that had pretty well been laid out before I got there that design I guess I helped implement it by appearing at certain functions for candidates who were targets Targets for aid

SENEY Were you helping them to raise money by being there?

BEVERLY Well I guess I helped raise some money I don't remember significant activity in fund raising I remember we had one big caucus fund raiser up there when California was named the number one legislature by somebody a national group and we had a big \$500 fund raiser in Sacramento I helped on that They called me in and wanted me to be active particularly among the people I dealt with the insurance and financial community That was one of the first major fund raising activities I ever remember in Sacramento We didn't have the practice [like] now of having a fund raiser all the time Maybe it's limited right now because of the uncertainty of new laws but it was not the general practice to raise money in Sacramento Maybe the leaders did but nobody else

SENEY Well Unruh as speaker had inaugurated the practice of raising a good deal of money as speaker and Monagan I take it continued that practice

BEVERLY I guess so although frankly I wasn't that much involved in it except for this one affair I remember We had caucus dinners that were fund raiser dinners after that initial one I mentioned But that was a comparatively new thing I thought

SENEY Good idea did you think?

BEVERLY Well as long as you're within the law and you report everything it's fine it's an excellent idea

SENEY As this time is developing more and more money is being required for campaigns isn't it?

BEVERLY Oh yes

SENEY Tell me a little bit about chairing the Finance and Insurance Committee What was that like?

BEVERLY The chairman had a lot of power in those days There was no recorded roll call votes You had voice votes in committees and the ayes or the noes prevailed And my practice and that of many chairmen was to be damn sure that the votes were there I would ask the committee consultant Are the votes here? and he would go around and check with members I wanted to be sure particularly on something controversial The routine stuff no problem So my point is the chairman had a lot of power Theoretically every bill that was introduced is set for hearing I don't

remember a chairman sticking a bill in their pocket and going home that sort of thing

SENEY That's not something you did

BEVERLY No Something you see on the federal level

SENEY Well there were people at the state level who did that

BEVERLY In the Senate I guess

SENEY We'll get to that later But did you feel an obligation then to run the committee in a pretty open fashion?

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY And that didn't in the end diminish your influence did it over what went on?

BEVERLY I don't think so I was probably somewhat pro industry and business oriented as are most Republicans I mean I don't deny that or apologize for it So I was basically a friendly chairman

SENEY Do you remember any instances where you felt strongly in favor of or opposed to something that you worked especially hard to either pass or defeat?

BEVERLY I can't remember whether it was when I was chairman Nothing comes to mind immediately There was always an effort to in my opinion overregulate industry to adopt a statute saying what the late charges could

be or what the interest rate was on this. My own feeling was that the business community, the market, ought to dictate those things rather than the Legislature. There was that constant conflict.

SENEY: Right. Because the Assembly was very closely split at this time. It was only 41 to 39 in the Republicans' favor, although Mr. Reagan was governor and one would certainly describe him obviously as a business-oriented governor.

BEVERLY: Monagan never really had majority control because Jack Veneman left almost immediately. [Assemblyman] Alan [G.] Pattee from Monterey was killed in an auto accident, so he was operating on the margin all the way.

SENEY: Right. But the point being, I suppose, that under the parliamentary rules that no one could replace him without 41 votes, and the Democrats didn't have 41.

BEVERLY: True.

SENEY: But he was hanging on in any case, and he makes that point himself that he never felt that he could be very partisan because the majority was so razor thin during this period.

What was your relationship like as committee chairman with the Reagan administration and the people within the Reagan administration who dealt with the matters your committee dealt with?

BEVERLY I don't remember the governor's office per se being involved very much at all. I did deal frequently with the Insurance commissioner, the commissioner of Corporations, Banking superintendent, or whatever his title was. And it was a good relationship; we were generally in agreement. I don't remember any conflict.

SENEY But nothing stands out in terms of the relationship?

BEVERLY No.

SENEY You know, people have complained again among them Mr. Monagan and Mr. Moretti, other people who were in the Legislature, that during the first Reagan term, from '66 to '70, and especially in those first two years from '66 to '68, that Reagan didn't really understand how he had to deal with the Legislature and that you all were part of the process and that he just couldn't run roughshod over you or ignore you. Do you remember that? Are there any things that you dealt with that made you feel maybe he didn't understand the importance of the Legislature?

BEVERLY I don't have any personal recollection of that; it was a general feeling. I can't think of any incidents that I was involved in. [With the] possible exception of reapportionment later on.

SENEY Right, and we'll get to that because that is very important. So was the election night, 1970, a surprise to you? I don't know where you spent that

night Was it down here or were you with Mr Monagan up in Sacramento checking on the returns?

BEVERLY I can't remember That's when the Democrats took back control

SENEY Right

BEVERLY I don't remember

SENEY I've got some numbers here I think they were 43 to 37 in 1970 was what the breakdown was

BEVERLY Is that what it was?

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY There must have been some upsets but I can't remember which ones they were

SENEY I don't have any note on that either Were you confident winning? Did you expect you were going to win? And Reagan beats Unruh [for governor] in 1970 by a pretty good margin very good margin really

BEVERLY We were surprised but I knew the numbers weren't going to change drastically either way I wish I could think of particular campaigns that were surprise victories or defeats I can't now remember

SENEY What was it like do you remember returning to the Assembly now that you're back in the minority again?

BEVERLY Well the activities started immediately among candidates for speaker I

remember Moretti calling and I'd been close to Moretti as a friend. He had been chairman of Finance and Insurance at one time. And we had that relationship. I don't think he was on the committee when I was chair. So he was calling me for support and somebody else was running at the time too. I forget who. That's the only activity I remember. I don't remember anything on the Republican side.

SENEY As long as the Democrats had a majority, why would he call you to ask for your support? I wonder? Ultimately, of course, the speaker's elected by the entire Assembly.

BEVERLY Well, I guess it's insurance. You hustle every vote you can. He must have had some who were not with him at that stage.

SENEY In the interview he gave, he said they were surprised that they won. You know, that they didn't expect to win.

BEVERLY That Moretti gave?

SENEY Right. They thought the Republicans would have maintained control, especially given the way in which the gubernatorial election was likely to go, and the polls were clear that Mr. Reagan was going to be reelected rather handily.

What was your relationship like with Moretti? Because now he serves four years as speaker. And what were your views of him?

BEVERLY Well he was a strong speaker I don't know where our relationship really began Before I ever went to the Assembly I knew Bobby We were representing a client who was proposing to build a big pipeline a gas pipeline from Texas through Mexico to California and there were things affecting it pending before the Legislature and I met Moretti at that time He must have been involved in some committee I can't recall So we had a personal relationship When I got to Sacramento we frequently dined together with groups Sometimes Unruh would put them together We had a tennis relationship He took up tennis and so did I and others and we had an active tennis tournament We lived in the same complex in Sacramento in Governor's Square

SENEY A lot of the members lived there didn't they?

BEVERLY Quite a few at one time Bob Moretti had a love for Jamaica for some reason and he put together trips to Jamaica and I went on several

SENEY Again you're alluding to this period that we talked about before before Prop 9 and before the Legislature becomes a full time body when again members across the aisle become friends

BEVERLY Right

SENEY Would it be your view that that kind of friendship and camaraderie smoothes the legislative process and makes it more productive and the

product better maybe in the end?

BEVERLY I don't know whether I'd say better. I think the present product under the different system is no better as I said before. We had budget fights then but they didn't seem to be as bitter or as long lasting as they are now. I think it did. These are those on the outside or those on the extremes left or right. But it's the great bulk in the middle the moderates of both parties that get things done and it helped in that regard put that group together

SENEY Were you on the Reapportionment and Elections Committee in the 1970

BEVERLY No

SENEY Because I know you are later in 1990 and we'll talk about that. But were you involved in the machinations over reapportionment at all during that period?

BEVERLY Not really. The leadership was pretty much involved in the reapportionment exclusively. And there was an effort to appease for the most part all incumbents draw lines that were suitable. I did get involved with a group that urged Reagan to sign the plan. I guess that was nineteen

SENEY It was '71

BEVERLY Yeah we thought it was as good a plan as we could get and better than leaving it up to the. I think there was still a commission in existence so

we didn't know

SENEY It ended up in the court's hands

BEVERLY Yeah it ended up in the courts I think there was some doubt about that at one point whether that commission would still the commission was invalidated for some reason

SENEY Well there was a commission to draw up the Senate boundaries in 1967 was there not when the court ruled

BEVERLY One man one vote

SENEY There had been a commission in existence to draw up the original Senate reapportionment after that initiative passed in the 1920s and there was some question raised as to whether or not that commission could be used again

BEVERLY That might have been it

SENEY But the general consensus of opinion was that it couldn't be Were you part of the delegation that went and visited Mr Reagan to urge him to sign that plan?

BEVERLY Mm hm [Yes]

SENEY I'm told he was in his robe and bedroom slippers

BEVERLY There was some midnight meeting That's not one I went to I went to one in the governor's office I don't remember who was there I remember

[Assemnblyman] Walter [J] Karabian for one But every time we d say the plan basically is as good as we can get and we can win with it he would point to the [Assemblyman Kenneth] Ken Cory district in Orange County which was a horrible mess all over the map I mean we never could respond to that very well

SENEY Well Ken Cory was sort of a principal follower of Jesse Unruh s and Moretti s too and they were looking out for him in that Orange County district

BEVERLY That s right He was the only Democrat down there

SENEY There was also the factor in November of 71 of the [Assemblyman] Bill Brophy [Richard] Alatorre election Do you remember that?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Brophy upset Alatorre

BEVERLY That was a special one

SENEY Special election right November 16 1971 And Reagan apparently said Listen we can beat these guys We don t have to take this reapportionment plan ' There were a number of Republicans who saw that election as positive for the Republicans Do you recall the effect that had on Reagan and what went on with that?

BEVERLY I really don t It was an upset win

SENEY It was an upset right

BEVERLY Brophy turned out to be an odd duck to say the least

SENEY How do you mean?

BEVERLY Well he was totally independent He got in trouble in a couple of instances in Sacramento something to do with a prostitute I remember one night Wasn't there a shooting of his campaign headquarters?

SENEY That was before the election

BEVERLY They think Brophy shot himself I don't know

SENEY Well there were rumors to that effect that it might have been not all it seemed to be But that was generally thought to be what turned the election in his favor There was a kind of sympathy that came out of it

BEVERLY That's right That might have been it I've forgotten all that

SENEY And then he was subsequently appointed to the State College Board of Trustees was he not I think?

BEVERLY Brophy? No his wife I think

SENEY Oh is it his wife?

BEVERLY I don't remember him being appointed

SENEY I may be wrong on that But anyway the reapportionment goes to the court and it turned out not to be advantageous to the Republicans at all Do you remember what they did to your Assembly district in that

reapportionment how your district came out?

BEVERLY What year was that '71?

SENEY Yeah '71

BEVERLY No major change I think that we lopped off the northern end from the airport north and basically otherwise left it alone It was very good from my standpoint

SENEY So maybe even an improvement in a way

BEVERLY I doubt that but it was just as good from a reelection standpoint

SENEY And you've always done very well in your elections

BEVERLY Mm hm [Yes]

SENEY Always more than 60 percent of the vote?

BEVERLY With one exception in a Senate race in nineteen ninety

SENEY The '92 race

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY That was the primary that was kind of tight

BEVERLY Well so was the general

SENEY Was it?

BEVERLY I think I won by one percentage against a virtual unknown To this day I don't know what happened It was a terrible Republican year and it was a terrible year for incumbents

SENEY Right Well we'll get to that But you didn't have any trouble obviously in 1992 or '94 winning reelection

BEVERLY Eighty two or '84

SENEY I'm sorry We're talking about '72 I'm still dwelling on the '70 reapportionment here and your time in the Assembly

BEVERLY Yeah I was challenged in the primary in '68 by a right wing candidate a CRA candidate or somebody but we had no trouble with him

SENEY And you haven't generally had much opposition in the primaries have you?

BEVERLY That may have been the only time

SENEY And the last time you ran you had opposition in the primary

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY But the number of Republicans really dwindles in the Assembly After the '72 election there were actually four vacancies but only 33 Republicans and 43 Democrats in the Assembly After the '72 election it's 49 Democrats and 31 Republicans

BEVERLY And that was post Watergate

SENEY Well the '74 election was the post Watergate one I'm sorry that was the post Watergate one the 49 31 Democrats

BEVERLY That was a disaster I was minority leader

SENEY Right That's right What year were you elected minority leader?

BEVERLY Let's see Nixon began his second term in '72

SENEY Right

BEVERLY And Monagan left I'm trying to think of the scenario I was elected caucus chairman and then when Monagan left I became minority leader

[Begin Tape 2 Side B]

SENEY That didn't get on You were saying that Monagan had left the Assembly to go back and be Assistant Secretary of Transportation?

BEVERLY Yeah Let's see Bagley oh Bagley ran for controller and lost and went back to Washington as the first chairman of the Commodity Futures Commission whatever it was called And Monagan left When did Nixon resign?

SENEY Nixon resigned in '74

BEVERLY Monagan was back there then Maybe I became minority leader in '74 I've forgotten I can check that

SENEY After the '74 election the Democrats had 53 and the Republicans were down to 25 which was I think the lowest point Was this during the time that you were minority leader?

BEVERLY I had the pleasure of being leader when we were down to the lowest or the

one before that [Assemblyman] Paul Priolo might have been in there

SENEY Well Priolo succeeded you

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And Chappie was the caucus chair at that time It says here that and this again is from Lancaster's interview⁴ and he may have it wrong but he says you were the minority leader you succeeded Monagan Chappie was caucus chair and that you beat Priolo and then Priolo was elected minority leader Does that make sense to you?

BEVERLY No I didn't run against Priolo

SENEY Were you defeated for minority leader?

BEVERLY No

SENEY You decided to leave and go to the Senate

BEVERLY Right When I filed for the Senate I resigned

SENEY And then Priolo takes over as minority leader

BEVERLY Yeah The moderate group backed Chappie and we failed by one vote or something

SENEY That's what it was Priolo beats Chappie by one vote and then he selected

⁴ Oral history interview with William H. Lancaster by Enid Hart Douglass, completed under the auspices of the Regional Oral History Office, the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley and the California State Archives, State Government Oral History Program, 1994-1995, Vol. 1, page 172.

Chappie as his caucus chair

BEVERLY Reagan was still governor when I became minority leader. It must have been in his last year.

SENEY Yeah.

BEVERLY It was probably '74.

SENEY And '74 was his last year, right? What was that like, being minority leader?

BEVERLY Well, again, things were not as partisan up there as they are now. I devoted most of my time to trying to protect our incumbent legislators who were viewed as possibly being in trouble, seeing that they carried some good legislation if available, behave themselves and so forth.

SENEY By behave themselves you mean behave themselves.

BEVERLY Yes.

SENEY in the sense of don't get in the headlines and don't get in the paper and that kind of thing.

BEVERLY The Assembly was more partisan than the Senate always had been. I did not enjoy being minority leader. I didn't like being that partisan. I never had a great deal of interest in budgets and finance matters. I had to be active as spokesman for the party on those issues. We tried to reorganize the Assembly caucus staff, assigning staffers to various areas or various

candidates to assist the legislators I had a bright young staffer who was my top assistant named Bob McQuirk who developed a reorganization plan but we lost every close race in the election It was the post Watergate thing It was a terrible time

SENEY My understanding from others is the Republicans had a feeling it was a combination that had you gotten Reagan to sign that original reapportionment plan that the losses would not have been as great post Watergate but that the plan that was put into effect by the courts had more toss up districts in it and thanks to the post Watergate effect the Republicans lost the toss up districts Would that have been your feeling?

BEVERLY That might have been I don't recall in detail now frankly

SENEY My understanding is that if you're minority leader you would hope to have become speaker and that you had wanted to become speaker

BEVERLY Well almost anybody would like to be speaker It's still viewed as by most the second most powerful job in California It don't know whether that's true or not It never appeared that we would get a majority in the period I was there so I didn't spend much time dwelling on that subject

SENEY Now you say that as minority leader you didn't like it because you had to be partisan and things were getting more partisan were they not in the Assembly during this period?

BEVERLY Yes And some of the issues bothered me I remember there was a bill to not legalize small quantities of marijuana but to reduce the penalty and I would have voted for that bill

SENEY That was [Senator George] Moscone's bill

BEVERLY Yeah And I'll tell you an incident with Moscone in a second The caucus took a position and we didn't take too many positions but they took a position against the bill So as caucus chairman or minority leader I felt I had to go along with the position and vote which was against my conscience I would have voted for the bill It was things like that that occurred every now and then that I disliked that the caucus was divided

SENEY And once the caucus had spoken you were obliged to represent their views then I guess

BEVERLY Yeah I thought so I think so today Or step out Right after that vote I was in Frank Fats [Restaurant] and Moscone came in and he was madder than hell at me He said You indicated to me you were going to vote for that bill ' and I explained the caucus position on it We almost came to blows The next day I got a note saying Bob better to lose the bill than a friend " or something "Sorry George Moscone had been a pretty good friend

SENEY As you're recounting this you look kind of sad Senator

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did his assassination affect you particularly?

BEVERLY Mm hm We had been friends and next door neighbors in Governor's Square had been to Russia together

SENEY Well he was a very personable and attractive individual I m told

BEVERLY Oh yes Very bright Strong guy

SENEY And a good politician

BEVERLY Mm hm He had an ill fated race for governor where he was going to walk the state or something

SENEY Yes in 74

BEVERLY But his death was tragic In fact I had been on a trip to Israel and came back and we arrived in Los Angeles and he d just been assassinated that morning or the day before We didn t know about it We were told at the airport

SENEY I think his death affected a lot of people

BEVERLY Oh yeah

SENEY What made you decide to run for the Senate and leave the Assembly?

BEVERLY Well at that time there were three seats open as I remember The congressional seat here was open the board of supervisors was open which is a plum in Los Angeles County

SENEY Yes indeed that's a very powerful position

BEVERLY And the Senate seat was open [Senator Robert S] Bob Stevens was not going to run again I decided I was what was I 50 at the time? At the time I thought that's a little old to go back to Congress to the back bench There was no indication the Republicans were going to take over I didn't think I wanted to be supervisor and deal with gas station zoning again and all that crap

SENEY But it is a very powerful position isn't it?

BEVERLY Yes And I thought I could win the Senate seat There was an incumbent senator from Hawthorne named [Senator James Q] Wedworth who had part of the district the new Senate district and he established an office down here and so forth and was of concern to the Republicans and it was a marginal district But the Republican Party and I figured I could win it

SENEY And Wedworth could not

BEVERLY We could beat Wedworth Wedworth was Democrat And there were others that were talking about running but they couldn't win So with all those factors considered I opted to run for the Senate and stay in Sacramento

SENEY And you must have seen at this point too that the idea of becoming speaker was probably not going to happen

BEVERLY No right

SENEY Was that a very tough campaign for the Senate? Did you have opposition in that campaign?

BEVERLY Well Wedworth was fairly well funded as I remember

SENEY I was thinking more of primary opposition

BEVERLY I don't remember any opposition in the primary Couldn't have been significant I'm sure it wasn't

SENEY Let me go back a minute to the decision to run for the senate You say the Republicans that you looked at this I take it some of the party people maybe came to you and said Listen you've got a good Assembly seat here that's solidly Republican We think we can keep that Republican and we think if you'll run for the Senate we can take Wedworth's seat away from him and increase our numbers in the Senate Is that what happened?

BEVERLY Well most of this district had been represented by a Republican so you were talking about replacing a Republican as well as unseating Wedworth Yeah they were probably local types the Assembly District Central Committee which I was member as an elected official

SENEY Right who would analyze it that way and say Geez Bob we need you to do this for us

BEVERLY That was Dean Dana by the way who later became supervisor He was

chairman

SENEY Of the Assembly Republican Committee?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And he became a very I want to say influential member of the board of supervisors

BEVERLY Well he [Michael] Antonovich and Pete Schabarum were the Republican majority on there

SENEY Right And was it Dean Dana that made it a Republican majority?

BEVERLY Yes He beat Yvonne Brathwaite Burke

SENEY That's right So you were able to beat Wedworth without a whole lot of trouble

BEVERLY Easy

SENEY And again that would be a campaign primarily of brochures yard signs billboards You've used a lot of billboards in your campaigning

BEVERLY Oh yeah

SENEY I guess in the Southern California district a good portion of your electorate is going to be going down a freeway

BEVERLY Yeah I don't know whether they're any good anymore but we always used them and as an incumbent or likely winner the billboard industry tended to be rather kind in finding locations and so forth You had to pay for

them

SENEY What was it like going into the Senate as opposed to the Assembly?

BEVERLY Well believe it or not at first I missed the action and to some degree the well not so much the partisanship but the conflict and the excitement of the Assembly. The Senate was rather quiet and austere but it didn't take me long to adjust and enjoy it much more.

SENEY Is it more informal in the Senate the way the Senate operates?

BEVERLY No it's more formal.

SENEY What am I getting wrong here something we're saying wrong?

BEVERLY Well in the Assembly for one thing dress and attire for example you can wear anything. The Senate requires coats and ties. You don't find members very often cursing or shouting at one another. There's a gentlemanly gentility that goes on on a daily basis. Just a different atmosphere. They're older more experienced. Most of them came from the Assembly or at least a significant number. I was very comfortable there.

SENEY Was Ken Maddy already in the Senate by this time?

BEVERLY No he came shortly after I did.

SENEY After you. He was elected in the '78 election?

BEVERLY He was elected in a special election ⁵ [Senator] George [N] Zenovich left to go on the appellate court I think that was the situation Ken Maddy and Democrat Assemblyman John Thurman from Modesto ran and Maddy won

SENEY What was the committee assignment process like? Now you said of course that Unruh had taken care of you to begin with in the Assembly and then under Monagan of course you had a chairmanship It's the Rules Committee that actually makes the appointments

BEVERLY Right In the Senate right

SENEY Is that the way it worked in or did the Republican Caucus say to the Rules Committee we would like Senator Beverly to be on these committees?

BEVERLY There was input from the caucus but depending on who the Republican leader was they would try to accommodate the Republican leader if he was a Maddy or a Beverly For example the present Republican leader [Senator] Rob Hurtt ultra conservative I don't think they pay much attention to It's mostly the decision of the president pro tem

SENEY It's not really that Mr Hurtt is ultra conservative he's more

⁵ June 1979

confrontational too is he not than the normal style of leadership?

BEVERLY That s true

SENEY And that would be as much of a factor as his political views wouldn t it in the Senate?

BEVERLY Yeah it d be a factor

SENEY What committees did you request when you went to the Senate?

BEVERLY Let s see

SENEY I know you served on Appropriations for a long time

BEVERLY That came later I think Insurance and Financial Institutions because I had chaired a similar committee in the Assembly It was called I&FI then Probably Judiciary And GO [Government Organization] I d never been on GO I requested it partly because the chairman [Senator] Ralph [C] Dills the old veteran who had the adjoining district now has this district had talked to me about going on he d like to have me on there We always got along well

SENEY Was that committee still the graveyard committee for bills at that point?

BEVERLY Yeah a lot of environmental bills so called

SENEY Because I know for years in the Senate that the Government Organization Committee served as the committee into which the bills that no one really wanted to see the light of day would be put And you would understand

that? I mean if these bills came to the committee

BEVERLY I don't remember much of that occurring after I got on the committee. We had all the horseracing legislation, gambling, liquor.

SENEY But there was a time in the Senate's history when that committee really ruled the Senate, in a sense, in terms of legislation. I know that was before your time.

BEVERLY Yeah. It was said that they met for dinner the night before and settled everything. I know I had a bill, as a new assemblyman, to create an agricultural district on the Palos Verdes Peninsula to fund a botanical garden.⁶ My predecessor Chapel had gotten a bill out of the Assembly. He'd gotten it through one committee in the Assembly. Anyway, maybe he got it out of the Assembly. Well, I had put the bill in too because it was a popular bill down there in the Peninsula area to find a way to fund that great South Bay botanical garden and I wanted that bill. I couldn't afford to do less than Charlie had done and I wanted to get it out of the Senate. I took the bill in before that committee and the next thing I knew I had an agricultural district that included Galt, which is up by Sacramento, and something in Trona. The committee just jammed everything into it and I

⁶ A B 84 1967 1968 Reg Sess (1968)

didn't even know where these places were. The committee Chairman was [Senator] George Miller [Jr.] he said. Trona gave us [Superintendent of Public Instruction Maxwell L.] Max Rafferty [Jr.] the bill is with the committee and he threw it on the floor.

SENEY Did that make it unworkable?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY It did

BEVERLY That was the end of it. But at least it was alive. I think it was quietly killed in Appropriations.

SENEY I see. Well, what would have been their tactic for doing that? I mean, why would they do that, do you think?

BEVERLY As I remember, I guess it wasn't the Appropriations Committee, it was the Finance Committee. I mentioned in the course of the hearing that I didn't even know where Trona was and the chairman was [Senator] George Miller. He says, 'Trona gave us [Superintendent of Public Instruction Maxwell L.] Max Rafferty [Jr.] The bill is with the committee' and he threw it on the floor and that was the end of it.

SENEY Meaning that it's not going to go out of the committee.

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY I guess Senator Miller wasn't too fond of the former superintendent of

Education

BEVERLY No he wasn't

SENEY Senator Miller was no longer in the Senate when you arrived was he? I can't remember when he died

BEVERLY No he was there

SENEY Was he there?

BEVERLY Yeah he was there several years I think

SENEY What was he like?

BEVERLY Gruff as hell smart hardworking If you could get him on your side you had a great ally

SENEY My understanding is he was a very effective and powerful senator

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did you get along well with him?

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY And that he was very much the style of senator from say the pre 1967 period Would you make a distinction between the Senate before '67 and after the '67 reapportionment in terms of the way it operated?

BEVERLY Well I don't know if it was '67 No that's right the one man one vote

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Yeah definitely The barons from the north were no longer in total

control or had the power they had. Although the powers of the chairmen still existed then. We hadn't gotten to the recorded votes or any of that yet.

SENEY And did the chairmen generally use all that power that they had or did they do as you had done when you were in the Assembly even though you could do it you didn't do it.

BEVERLY It varied. Some of the hard lined old time Democrats still did. I can't remember any Republicans. Of course there were Republican chairmen but there weren't that many.

SENEY Was [Senator] Hugh [M.] Burns still in the Senate at that point?

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY And of course he was no longer president pro tem and hadn't been for some time by the time you arrived.

BEVERLY Well he was pro tem when I arrived.⁷ I think he was.

SENEY Well maybe he was. He was replaced by now I can't remember and I'm sure you'll be able to. Either [Senator] Howard Way⁸ or [Senator] Jack

⁷ Hugh M. Burns was President Pro Tem of the California State Senate 1957-1969.

⁸ Howard Way succeeded Hugh M. Burns as President Pro Tem on May 14, 1969.

Schrade⁹ replaced him

BEVERLY I think it was Howard Way

SENEY Howard Way and then Jack Schrader and then [Senator James R.]

Mills¹⁰ follows from roughly the '80s. What was he [Hugh M. Burns] like?

BEVERLY I never had much dealing with him actually. The relationship I had, I'd see him at some of these luncheon things. Pleasant, got along with him fine, no problems, but my contacts were rather slim and I never formed really a strong opinion one way or the other about him. He was pretty well liked.

SENEY I take it he was an effective leader.

BEVERLY Yeah. He was in a long time. I was a member of the Derby Club. I'd been invited to the Derby about the first week I was in the Assembly, and I never really knew who invited me. I had been aware of the Derby, of course. The Derby Club tended to be made up of moderates and conservatives, mostly Democrats, but it gave one a good contact with the Senate as a new assemblyman. So I joined up when they invited me in. Burns was active in that. [Senator Randolph] Collier was the principal

⁹ Jack Schrader succeeded Howard Way as President Pro Tem on February 10, 1970.

¹⁰ James R. Mills succeeded Jack Schrader and served as President Pro Tem from 1971 until December 1, 1980.

Randy Collier was the principal Derby Club guy the head man

SENEY And you would meet regularly

BEVERLY We'd do lunch

SENEY You'd have lunch

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY How often would that happen?

BEVERLY Once a week

SENEY And were there others there? Would lobbyists come too?

BEVERLY Yes lobbyists and legislators Mostly senators

SENEY Was this one of the clubs where the rule was you didn't talk politics and make deals?

BEVERLY The rule was you didn't lobby There was plenty of politics talk

SENEY But I'm thinking in some of these organizations like Moose Milk was another one where the and we go back to the discussion we had a little while ago about the sort of social life of the institution These were meant to sort of foster friendships and get people to know one another more than to say be a place where you'd lobby for one of your bills and something of that kind

BEVERLY That's right And Moose Milk for example was sponsored by I think a half a dozen different lobbyists Judge [James D.] Garibaldi representing

racetracks and liquor was one I think the utilities Other racing interests

SENEY Well why don t we take a break Senator

BEVERLY Okay

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[Begin Tape 3 Side A]

SENEY All right Senator I'd like to start by asking you about the leadership in the Senate on both sides of the aisle We started talking about Senator Burns and maybe we'll start with the Democrats Let me ask you to give me your views on the various people on the Democratic side who were leaders while you were in the senate First of all Senator Mills as a leader How would you evaluate him?

BEVERLY Well Mills was not a strong partisan He was more interested in the issues somewhat scholarly easy to get along with Didn't engage in hard political actions I don't remember him getting involved in campaigns He was the old tradition way You didn't work against your Senate colleagues

SENEY I know when George Moscone was majority leader on the Democratic side that his people worked on campaigns Is that the way it worked on the Democratic side?

BEVERLY As I remember Moscone was the first majority floor leader They didn't have such a position before He tended to make the Senate more partisan

than it had been

SENEY How is that?

BEVERLY By the mere fact they had caucuses and caucus chairmen positions they didn't have before as I understand it. Now Moscone was already there when I got there. When I got to the Assembly he was already in the Senate. That's what I've been told. And the Senate got more partisan as time went on.

SENEY Was it very partisan when you got there in '76?

BEVERLY No. Well, more than it had been, but not strongly partisan. Nowhere near compared to the Assembly.

SENEY And I guess Mills would be a sort of leader in that tradition of not being a particularly partisan one.

BEVERLY That's why they unseated him, partly.

SENEY Would you have, in the course of events, much contact with him?

BEVERLY When I was in the Senate?

SENEY Yeah.

BEVERLY Oh, yeah. We'd been friends. I remember Mills when I first met him. When I was elected in the Assembly I was the lowest one on the totem pole, a special election, and in the days before offices were anywhere near equal I got the smallest cubbyhole there was, and Mills came by one of

the first days I was there and had a photograph of a ship a painting or a photograph I forget and he'd been in that office at one time and there was a niche where the picture just fit and he gave me the picture to put in there So we continued a friendship We did crossword puzzles together on the floor frequently when we were killing time He'd come by and check with me I remember a constituent saying You and the president pro tem must be close he comes by to confer with you on the floor He was checking crossword puzzles

SENEY The constituent sees this from the gallery

BEVERLY Yeah He can't see the puzzle What'd you get for 34 across today?

SENEY Well that didn't hurt for the constituent to think that I suppose huh?

BEVERLY No But the Democrats were in a state of unrest then and they picked [Senator David A.] Roberts because he promised to get more politically active I forget if the particular election had been bad for the Democrats or what I can't remember Something brought it to a head

SENEY The 1980 election? I think there was a drop in the number of Democrats in the 1980 election as a matter of fact Let's see in the 1980 election the Republicans picked up two seats and the balance went from what it had been 25 Democrats and 15 Republicans to 23 Democrats and 17 Republicans

BEVERLY When did he [Mills] become president of the Senate?

SENEY He became president of the Senate in 1970 I think and left in 1980
Right?

BEVERLY That sounds about right

SENEY And that's really what a leader on either side sort of sinks or swims by
isn't it how many members they have and whether or not in the elections
the numbers shrink or increase

BEVERLY That's right Particularly in the Assembly and then it became more so in
the Senate

SENEY What was your reaction to Robert? I mean how did you work with him
and did you much?

BEVERLY Yeah I got along with Robert. We had served in the Assembly together
Robert tended to be kind to moderate senators and team players and those
who were willing to work. He was especially on good relations with Ken
Maddy with [Senator William] Bill Campbell and myself. Word was that
he had told the chief administrative officer take care of Beverly Maddy
and Campbell. There might have been one or two others I can't
remember

SENEY What does that mean when he says that to the chief administrative officer?

BEVERLY Well discretions of exercising and granting approval for some request for

furniture or supplies or staff. You're not going to give it to the guy that fights you at every turn.

SENEY Right

BEVERLY And we were reasonable, responsible people. We tended to vote for budgets when it was necessary to pass the budget, not to play games just for political advantage.

SENEY There's a quote I want to read to you from the — this is from the *California Political Almanac* and this is I think the latest one. It says about you: "He gets along well with the Democrats in the Senate and was a key swing vote for the assault weapons ban bill. And it also says something else here that I thought was interesting and it says: 'When Senator Bill Lockyer, who moved on to become pro tem, crashed a meeting in David Robert's office in the spring of 1989 to complain about secret budget deals. He found Beverly among those inside.'"¹¹

BEVERLY I was on the Finance Committee, vice chairman of the Finance Committee Or Appropriations. I forget at what stage that was. And we had a practice before the budget was adopted. We'd hold bills that had any substantial amount of money in them. Then we'd act on those bills on a certain

¹¹ Steven Green, *California Political Almanac*, 1995-1996, 4th edition, California Journal Press (Sacramento, CA) 1995, Pp. 112-113.

procedure. We had what we referred to as a screening committee. I think and that was the chairman of the Finance Committee, the President Pro Tem Robert, and myself as vice chairman of the Finance Committee. We would act as a screening committee and recommend to the full committee which bills would be approved and which would not. That was the meeting of that committee when he broke in.

SENEY: Oh, I see.

BEVERLY: And I was on there by virtue of being vice chairman of the Finance Committee.

SENEY: I see.

BEVERLY: Which was the ranking Republican on the committee.

SENEY: This was after the committee had been broken into Appropriations and Budget and Fiscal Review, maybe, which happened in about '83?

BEVERLY: I wasn't the first chairman of the Appropriations Committee, or first vice chairman. I think Bill Campbell had that slot. I'm not sure we didn't do that before we split the committee.

SENEY: Well, after you split the committees, you remained on Appropriations and were vice chair of Appropriations, right, in '89? You were vice chair of Appropriations.

BEVERLY: Yeah. When they split the committee, I had been on Finance and we had

to decide whether we wanted to be on Appropriations or Budget I took Appropriations So did Ken Maddy and so did Bill Campbell I think The three of us were on there I m not sure I was vice chairman yet I think that came later I was on the original committee Appropriations

SENEY How did you regard Roberti as a leader? What kind of a leader was he?

BEVERLY He didn t appear strong as a leader but he actually was in a quiet way He was very effective he was very persuasive He worked hard and he had lots of competent staff

SENEY Can you give us an example of how you d illustrate his strength as a leader when he maybe didn t appear to be?

BEVERLY Well I remember there was a rumor that [Senator Daniel E] Boatwright I think it was Senator Boatwright was plotting an overthrow of Roberti and without hesitation and against the protestations of Boatwright he canned him from an important committee or some post I forget what it was But he acted swiftly and rather ruthlessly He didn t take any guff I think he had [Governor Edmund G] Jerry Brown [Jr] removed from the chambers once when he was in the chambers He said the governor had no right to be there and no business being there and had him tossed out Things like that come to mind Yet when I knew Roberti in the Assembly he would have been one of the last ones I ever would have picked as a leader of the

Senate or the Assembly because he was so quiet

SENEY I've read articles about him that said that he used to walk right next to the wall down the hallways and people would remark about that

BEVERLY Yeah he'd actually walk along and brush against the wall When I first went to Sacramento I lived at the El Rancho Hotel with a lot of legislators at \$5 a day David lived there You never saw him He was a late riser he hated to get up in the morning He didn't socialize much at night and he was back in bed early You just didn't see him Non-existent I think he was at the time the youngest assemblyman that ever served Certainly the youngest at the time Like 29 or something like that He had some tough stuff One of the gun bills the assault weapons bill

SENEY The assault weapons ban?

BEVERLY That wasn't his was it?

SENEY I think he did handle that one

BEVERLY He might have

SENEY The one that caused him the recall attempt on him

BEVERLY That's right The bill was actually in law It was the L A guy who was speaker pro tem

SENEY [Assemblyman Mike] Roos

BEVERLY Mike Roos

SENEY Mike Roos' bill yeah

BEVERLY But Robert had a maybe he had the same bill or a major bill I forget

SENEY Yeah or carried it He was certainly identified with the bill

BEVERLY He took a lot of abuse on that and pushed it and got it He stood up to Jerry Brown on many occasions but I can't remember particular issues at the time But we had many veto overrides of Brown The rest of my Senate term and Assembly term I think there was only one override on Reagan and none on [Governor George Deukmejian] Duke or [Governor] Pete [Wilson] There were a number on Brown

SENEY What about Mr Lockyer?

BEVERLY Another one I never would have picked to become president pro tem if I'd been gauging him when he first came in Lockyer is inexhaustible I don't know if he ever sleeps He worked like hell and got himself involved in every issue Worked hard to become Senate pro tem He was the only one that really went out and worked to get it He was campaigning for a long period of time probably a year or two And he had a violent temper He'd fly off the handle frequently In fact we Republicans didn't really object too much to his becoming president pro tem because we thought he would self destruct In a couple of cases he came close to it but he survived

SENEY What's your evaluation of him now?

BEVERLY Strong effective

SENEY Senator [Alfred E] Alquist told me he thought that Lockyer was the best Democratic leader he d served under

BEVERLY Well I don t know what he s judging that on As a Democrat you might say that He was the most active and involved with so many things Roberti tended to play with the big issues but not get involved in anything else

SENEY Lockyer seems to play more of a role in the press You see him more making statements than one ever saw Roberti

BEVERLY That s true because he gets involved in everything After he left the post as chairman of Judiciary he still ran that committee It s the only committee he stayed on I think Of course he was on Rules the chairman of Rules but he kept his hand in And he was involved in the gambling legislation all the tort reform stuff He s a very energetic guy

SENEY Now the Democrats have had in the time you ve been in the Legislature really only three leaders Mills for a period of ten years Roberti for ten years and now Lockyer is the actually Roberti was more than ten years wasn t he? Maybe twelve years even

BEVERLY When did he come in?

SENEY He came in in 80

BEVERLY Eighty to '92 I guess

SENEY Yeah And succeeded by Mr Lockyer On the Republican side though the leadership of the Senate has been much more volatile

BEVERLY You're talking about since I've been there?

SENEY Yes right

BEVERLY I'm a little vague now

SENEY Well I was trying to make a list of the Republican leaders Was Mr Campbell the leader when you came in?

BEVERLY No We came to the Senate together He was not the Republican leader then yet There were a number of us who got together I remember now discussing the possibility of electing a freshman to the Rules Committee There were maybe six of us who were new We were going to band together And we agreed among ourselves to support Campbell for Rules Committee and he was elected to Rules Probably Deukmejian was still there Maybe he was the

SENEY Deukmejian would have been elected attorney general in 1978

BEVERLY Yeah that may be Here's the '75 handbook He was there then

SENEY He was elected in '78 to the Attorney General's Office

BEVERLY And he served two terms there?

SENEY He served one term there and was elected in '82 and '86 to the

governorship

BEVERLY He was minority floor leader when I got there

SENEY And then he was succeeded by Campbell Do I have that right?

BEVERLY There might have been somebody in between

SENEY Senator [James W] Nielsen?

BEVERLY He unseated Campbell

SENEY Right And Maddy unseated Nielsen

BEVERLY Yes Well didn't [Senator John] Seymour fit in there somewhere too?

SENEY Seymour was caucus chairman under Nielsen

BEVERLY That's right

SENEY And [Senator H L] Richardson was caucus chairman under Campbell

BEVERLY He took no interest in anything except his own causes guns and such

SENEY Well he was a very outspokenly conservative member of the Legislature
wasn't he?

BEVERLY Very much so But he was not active He didn't attend committees he
was absent a lot Liked to issue press releases that weren't worth a damn

SENEY My understanding he was an effective fund raiser through his Gun
Owners of California and I think he had one other organization that he
used to raise funds Do you recall that?

BEVERLY Yeah He was very active with the California Gun Owners or something

I don't know what he did with the money except use it himself. I don't think he handed much out.

SENEY So he didn't give it to other members to increase his own influence?

BEVERLY Not that I know of, no. He ran himself for U.S. Senate once along the route and maybe for something else. I've forgotten.

SENEY You were close to Mr. Campbell then. I take it.

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY What's he like? How would you evaluate him and describe him?

BEVERLY Very bright, pretty hard working. Underneath it all he was a pretty conservative guy on issues such as abortion, that sort of thing. He tended to get along well with people. He was close to Willie Brown, for example. He was close to Moretti and worked very well with David Roberti. I guess his voting record was mixed, but he was very conservative, but practical. He was a Mormon, for one thing, and that carried over.

SENEY You mean influenced his conservatism?

BEVERLY Yeah, I think so, on welfare issues, on abortion, as I mentioned, divorce, and some of those things. I can't remember them all.

SENEY Well, one of the reasons for his ouster by Nielsen was his rapport with Roberti.

BEVERLY Yeah, I of course supported Campbell in that fight. I've forgotten the

details of that how that went together but it was a surprise action taken suddenly one day to oust him in the caucus

SENEY Well there was some complaint that rather than seeing to increasing the number of Republicans in the Senate he'd actually gone on vacation during the '82 election cycle at some critical point

BEVERLY I don't remember that He supported Deukmejian for governor where a lot of the conservatives had supported [Lt Governor Mike] Curb most of them And I think Campbell and Maddy Beverly and Marian Bergeson were the only ones who supported Duke in the primary

SENEY This is an article from the *California Journal* and it says that one of the things that brought this to a head in 1983 the replacement of Campbell by Nielsen was the fact that it says here The straw that broke the camel's back was his that is Campbell's unexpected opposition to one of Governor Deukmejian's appointees Department of Forestry Director Jerry Partain ¹²

BEVERLY I remember something about that Campbell and Rules Committee had voted against him but I can't remember what the issue was

SENEY The issue here it says was that Campbell blocked the nomination because

¹² *California Journal* Vol 14 No 11 (November 1983) page 426

Partain opposed buying four Canadian built fire fighting planes that Campbell wanted bought

BEVERLY That was an issue The issue of whether to buy those planes or not was around for a number of years Campbell had along with several of us at different times visited that Canadian manufacturer s facilities up near Vancouver Island I guess Campbell he chaired some fire safety select committee and he was strongly in support of those airplanes There might have been campaign contributions involved I don t know It was an issue but I can t remember all the details Alquist and Campbell were strong supporters of that plane It s still an issue I guess

SENEY Oh is it?

BEVERLY I think so

SENEY It also says here that part of it was a continuing feud between Campbell and Richardson because in '79 Campbell had ousted Richardson as caucus chair

BEVERLY I don t remember that My memory of Richardson as caucus chair is almost nonexistent because he did so little

SENEY At this point would the caucus chair have been named by the minority floor leader or would that have been a decision of the caucus by vote?

BEVERLY I think it was the caucus but as a practical matter the wishes of the leader

were generally followed

SENEY And then Nielsen replaces him What was your view of Nielsen?

BEVERLY Weak not a good fund raiser not a particularly good spokesman for the party I didn't think much of him

SENEY It says here that he really wasn't entirely the minority floor leader that his wings if not clipped were sort of curtailed a bit and it says here that the caucus chair was Seymour and he apparently was not the choice of Nielsen necessarily but was the choice of the caucus And a group of people a kind of board of directors of senators [Senator] Jim Ellis of San Diego [Senator] Ollie Speraw of Newport Beach and I guess Seymour were also part of the outfit with [Senator John] John Doolittle of Citrus Heights

BEVERLY A very conservative group

SENEY I know Doolittle is The other two I don't know quite so much

BEVERLY Speraw he took Deukmejian's seat in Long Beach He was very conservative Seymour would have been the more moderate of the group but it was a moderate versus a conservative issue again

SENEY Do you remember these kind of machinations about making Nielsen minority floor leader but still hectoring him in with this group?

BEVERLY He was not his own man he was a tool of that group

SENEY Let me turn this over

[Begin Tape 3 Side B]

SENEY How would say a decision like this to change from Campbell with whom you had good rapport I'm sure as you've said you were close and you were an ally of his to Mr Nielsen and obviously you were on the other side of the vote to do that would this affect you Now if I look and see how many Republicans there were after the '82 election There's 15 Republicans so we're talking about maybe 8 on one side and 7 on the other almost in a vote of this kind Would that have been about it?

BEVERLY Yeah that would be

SENEY What's the practical effect on you of being on the losing side in this?

BEVERLY No real effect as long as I was getting along with the people who were calling the shots and that's the Democratic leadership on the Rules Committee and the overall body

SENEY The committee assignments are all done by the Rules Committee

BEVERLY Right I'm sure Nielsen although he would have input they wouldn't pay much attention to him Campbell had much more influence on naming Republican committee appointees as did Ken Maddy for example when he was in

SENEY I know it varied in the Assembly and I assume it did in the Senate too on these grounds That is the Democrats would give credence to some

Republicans requests but not other Republican requests as they saw fit and you always had good rapport with the Democratic leadership

BEVERLY Mm hm For a whole host of reasons

SENEY Why don t you spell those out Senator

BEVERLY Well because I was a moderate I worked I attended committees I carried legislation I always sooner or later supported the budgets The fact that I had the old law partner in Richard Richards was probably of some moment with them

SENEY He was a very popular and influential Democrat for a long time wasn t he?

BEVERLY He served 8 years in the Senate but a lot of the people knew him of course from his actions and activity in Democratic politics

I always enjoyed labor support We haven t mentioned that today at all

SENEY Right We ll get to that when we talk about your elections Right I know that You ve gotten very high rating from labor unions

BEVERLY And labor was more important in those days and it s still important in certain areas like the harbor and probably some of my labor support came about because not only was I reasonable and moderate I wasn t anti union or anti labor I sought their endorsement When longshoremen put out a call for candidates to appear no other Republican appeared I appeared

and got the endorsement Labor was of course still important to the Democratic Party in terms of funding if nothing else and they were supporting me and that helped in the internal fights in the assignments and so forth

SENEY Because you knew that the labor people Mr [Jack] Henning would speak up for you if it were necessary?

BEVERLY More particularly then was the guy from Los Angeles that was head of the labor council down here I can't think of his name

SENEY You know I know Senator Milton Marks also when he was still a Republican enjoyed a lot of labor support Would he and you be the only two Republicans who would enjoy labor support?

BEVERLY No Maddy had some support from labor [Senator William A.] Bill Craven gets some I'm sure Bagley did Veneman Teamsters tended to support more Republicans in those days I don't know whether they do now

SENEY Well you've listed off moderate Republican senators here

BEVERLY Yeah Milton Marks had the highest voting record labor voting record and higher than the Democrats most of them but San Francisco being a Republican is unique He wouldn't have been there if he hadn't supported labor and some of the gay issues and other liberal issues

SENEY And I want to ask you later about him switching parties what the reaction was of that

Nielsen lasts actually a fair amount of time until what '87 when Maddy replaces him? And there's an interesting coalition here because Maddy and Doolittle Doolittle becomes Maddy's caucus chair

BEVERLY Yeah that was a selection by the caucus I think a secret ballot at that time I'm not positive of that but I think so I don't know who ran against him It was not Maddy's choice I'm sure of that Maybe he replaced Richardson

SENEY Doolittle did you mean?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY As caucus chair?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Well under Nielsen Seymour was the caucus chair I think Doolittle was the minority whip under Nielsen at least according to this article ¹³ It says that he was the only member of the old leadership Doolittle was to retain his post What was your reaction to Doolittle?

BEVERLY He was an extremist very right wing Our voting records didn't coincide

¹³ *California Journal* Vol XVIII No 7 (July 1987) page 342

very much. A very pleasant guy. I remember one campaign Doolittle was running for reelection in a hard campaign. I forget who his opponent was and there was an open seat down in Ventura County where [Assembleman Charles R.] Chuck Imbrecht, assemblyman, was running against [Senator Jack] O'Connell. They were both running for the Senate. I sent a thousand dollars to Imbrecht and a thousand dollars to Doolittle. Within hours Doolittle was on the phone thanking me. Imbrecht was calling for more money. Doolittle was a gentleman. Very easy guy to deal with but philosophically we were way apart.

SENEY: We'll get to this in a little bit but you never really had any trouble raising money. According to the reports I've read that what after '74 you never really had another fund raiser.

BEVERLY: I hadn't had one for ten years along the route there.

SENEY: But the campaign contributions still came in.

BEVERLY: They came in. I didn't need too much and I didn't involve myself in a lot of other campaigns. I made contributions but nothing significant.

SENEY: That's what I was going to ask you. Why would you contribute to these two campaigns? What would move you to do that?

BEVERLY: Well, they were the Republican nominees and I was a loyal party guy. I might have been asked by the leader to contribute too though I'm not sure.

But I didn't give \$25,000 chunks or anything like that. Maybe \$5,000 was the most, with a few exceptions.

SENEY: Why would you contribute to Doolittle's campaign?

BEVERLY: It was important that he be reelected to keep the Republican majority, or seek to move toward that majority.

SENEY: Would those contributions, which I take it you would give not infrequently, I mean, would you give much in various campaigns in the campaign cycle? Would you give maybe something each to almost each of the candidates who were running?

BEVERLY: Well, certainly to those who needed it. There were a few, like a Bill Craven in San Diego, who didn't need any help, or Ken Maddy, generally. In his first campaign in the Senate, I helped him, where it was needed.

SENEY: What impact did that have on your influence? And let me tell you, Senator, the people I've talked to tell me that you are very influential.

BEVERLY: I don't know if that's true.

SENEY: That you are very influential?

BEVERLY: Certainly I have influence with my moderate colleagues such as Maddy. We also have a close social friendship. I got along with [and was] close to Campbell. So the influence is based on friendship more than contributions.

- SENEY Right I mean it certainly wouldn't hurt
- BEVERLY But I worked when I was up there I could be counted upon to vote and keep my word attend committees
- SENEY Well you had a very high level of voting over 90 percent on the one study that I saw that you had voted on over 90 percent of the votes
- BEVERLY Probably so
- SENEY That was something that was important to you to make sure that you were there to vote?
- BEVERLY Mm hm I've always been a stickler on being on time being present when you say you will I presided a lot
- SENEY Yes I read that too right And would things move along a little more expeditiously when Senator Beverly had the gavel do you think?
- BEVERLY Well Dills was the presiding officer most of the time and he was relieved by [Senator] John [Francis] Foran of San Francisco John was a very close friend and still is When John and I presided I think it moved better And the membership trusted me and trusted Foran to call them as we see them not play favorites and that was important
- SENEY How was it decided who was going to preside? I take it Senator Dills generally did because of his seniority Was he the most senior member of the body still is at this point?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And that's what would mean he would be the president right of the Senate

BEVERLY Presiding officer

SENEY Yeah presiding would be his seniority

BEVERLY Yeah plus his desire to do it Some don't want to preside

SENEY How would that be determined who would be presiding this Wednesday Thursday?

BEVERLY Well in the final analysis by the Rules Committee which means it's really by the chairman by the pro tem But it was pretty much left up to Dills He would ask for relief by me or by Foran generally And that was partly on friendship doing a good job in presiding whether you were accepted by the membership and so forth

SENEY You must have a good grasp for the rules procedure

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did you need to defer or lean over to the parliamentarian very often on matters?

BEVERLY Not too often

SENEY Are the rules of the Senate particularly complicated or difficult?

BEVERLY No basically Robert's rule

SENEY But it's important isn't it to have a grasp of the rules if you're going to be a member of the body because they can be useful can they not?

BEVERLY And to enforce them impartially

SENEY But I mean if I'm a member and I know the rules really thoroughly I'm going to have an advantage from time to time when I can use those rules

BEVERLY You might You might be able to sidetrack a bill before anybody knows what's happened

SENEY You kind of have a nice laugh when you say that Senator Can you think of any examples when you might have done that?

BEVERLY Well I was thinking of an example that happened in a committee when I was in the Assembly It was Local Government or Criminal Justice Mike Roos as a newcomer had a bill up and I raised the point of germaneness of some amendments he was offering or something to do with germaneness and before he knew it I had the bill referred back to Rules Committee and he didn't know when it happened Something like that I don't remember anything on the floor of the Senate when I was presiding but there were instances but no instance comes to mind

SENEY With Nielsen and I'm thinking I'm looking at this and I'm thinking Nielsen was elected leader in '83 and then Maddy when Maddy first came in to the body after the '78 election of course he ran for governor

in '78 and couldn't run for reelection. I take it for the Senate.

BEVERLY Right.

SENEY Then there's a special election in '79 and he comes back into the Senate. This was when Zenovich became the appeals court judge. And right away Maddy is really invited into a leadership position, and then when Campbell is ousted by Nielsen, that means Maddy is out too temporarily, right?

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY Okay. So in comes Nielsen and Seymour and it's now back to '87 when Maddy comes in and says he wants to challenge them for the leadership again.

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY And does so successfully and joins up with Doolittle in what you said was a caucus imposition, maybe of Doolittle in as caucus chair. Tell me about Maddy as leader. Now I've been told that you and he are very close friends, and you've said as much several times. Is he perhaps your closest friend in the Senate?

BEVERLY Mm-hm. Yeah, we met back when Maddy was one of our select candidates when Monagan was speaker. I guess. He ousted a Democrat in the Fresno area in a seat that was heavily Democratic, and I had helped

him in that campaign at the request of Monagan and Jerry Lewis the same year who ran in the Redlands area and Lewis and Maddy and I became close friends. In fact Lewis and I lived together in an apartment in Sacramento for several years in Governor's Square and before that someplace else. Maddy and I played a lot of tennis together and dined together and so forth. We've been very close.

SENEY What kind of person is he? Tell me a story maybe about him that would illustrate the kind of individual he is.

BEVERLY Well, what comes to mind? Maddy's very bright. He works hard, took an interest in the budget and negotiations on welfare, some areas of interest that I didn't have. And he was responsible, worked hard, respected by both sides, thought of very highly by Roberti, for example, had a chairmanship most of the time or leadership post.

SENEY A chairmanship even though the Democrats were in the majority.

BEVERLY Right. I think in the Assembly he was chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee. In the Senate he chaired something, probably a budget committee, subcommittee, important committee. He was a good spokesman for the party, good looking guy, strong support, strong agricultural base, quite an athlete as well. Tennis player, golfer, played football at Fresno State, active in horseracing, very much. That's his

legislative number one interest. He was born in Inglewood and worked on the back stretch while he was in high school and he went to Fresno State and got an agricultural degree and a law degree at UCLA. He was a good candidate for governor. He beat Pete Wilson that year in the primary.

SENEY But he came in second to Evelle [J.] Younger.

BEVERLY Third. [Former Los Angeles Police] Chief [Ed] Davis came in second.

SENEY That's right, he did. Ed Davis, that's right.

BEVERLY Famous names.

SENEY Well, Maddy ran out of money in that campaign, didn't he?

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY He started out with a couple hundred thousand dollars from the agricultural interests and built his name tremendously and then the money just dried out. Did you work in that campaign?

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY What did you do?

BEVERLY Well, I raised money for Ken. I made some appearances for him. Ran some stuff down here, traveled with him a little bit. I had counseled against his running. I thought Ev Younger was a cinch winner because of his name ID. One interesting aspect in that campaign, Maddy had been

contacted by who was behind Prop 13?¹⁴

SENEY [Howard] Jarvis and [Paul] Gann

BEVERLY Jarvis Jarvis had contacted him indicating if Maddy would support Prop 13 Jarvis organization might endorse him The Dirty Seven ' or ten or whatever the number was met to discuss Maddy's campaign one day and that issue came up I was the only one that said he ought to endorse it and the money made a hell of a difference

SENEY Why did you think he ought to endorse it?

BEVERLY Because it was a winning issue Property tax reform was a key issue People were upset

SENEY I'm asking you to remember back to 1978 in the pre June days Do you remember when that meeting took place what month that meeting took place?

BEVERLY Not precisely no

SENEY Because I know you remember that in the beginning even in January and February of '78 even into March it didn't look like Proposition 13 was going to be a winner Do you remember the big interests had gone the other way? The oil companies all of them had come out against

¹⁴ Proposition 13 (June 6 1978)

Proposition 13

BEVERLY I don't remember that but from the very beginning I was of the belief that Prop 13 was going to win walking away I judged it on the people down here

SENEY What you were hearing

BEVERLY Right Hell my own position I wouldn't be living here by the ocean I'd be back in Lawndale or someplace Or certainly I wouldn't have been a legislator I'd have had to go back to practicing law It was a life and death issue particularly for older people retired

SENEY But there were a lot of people who would have disagreed with you and been wrong about the passage of that

BEVERLY There was an alternative on the ballot¹⁵ too as I remember

SENEY There was The Legislature had put an alternative on the ballot Kind of a hurry up job when they thought that this needed to be derailed

BEVERLY Yeah and it passed heavily

SENEY It did

BEVERLY Certainly down here

SENEY What sort of a leader was Maddy? How did he exercise his

¹⁵ Proposition 8 (June 6 1978) Defeated

responsibilities as Senate leader?

BEVERLY He was responsible and he kept the caucus informed on what was going on in budget negotiations and committee assignments. He made them think they were really influencing what he was doing. He'd always do what he wanted to do on his own but the caucus got the feeling they were truly being consulted. I guess they were but he always did what he probably intended to do anyway. He had good relations with the governor.

SENEY Let me ask you how often would the caucus meet?

BEVERLY Weekly. Generally for breakfast on Thursday morning before the big floor session. Other times on call or during a floor session if there's a crisis or something. And he had good staff, very competent, some of which I had recruited when I was vice chairman of Appropriations.

SENEY Who became caucus chair when Doolittle left to go to the Congress?

BEVERLY Who was minority leader then?

SENEY I think it would have been Maddy.

BEVERLY The senator who's now an assemblyman from the Redlands area.

SENEY The one who, because of term limits, went back into the Assembly.

BEVERLY He's going to be the next Republican leader in the Assembly. I think after this session's over [Senator] Bill Leonard. That was an appointment by Maddy. He's a conservative right winger who works hard and it was

Maddy's doing to appease the conservative group as well as appointing a competent guy

SENEY Let me ask you this Did Maddy consult much with you on these things?

BEVERLY Oh yeah We talked all the time Maddy and I and Campbell pretty much

SENEY You and Maddy and Campbell What would he want to do bounce ideas off of you and say What do you think of this? How should I go on this? Or 'I've decided to do this what's your view?

BEVERLY Yeah Both And we were in constant contact talking about issues who was doing what what the governor's office was doing

SENEY Let me change this Senator

[Begin Tape 4 Side A]

SENEY We're talking about Maddy consulting with you Obviously you're not going to give me any confidences here but can you give me some examples of the things that he might ask you about that you would counsel him on and how that would work?

BEVERLY Well because I was on Rules Committee I often talked to him about matters that were pending before the Rules Committee appointments for confirmation that sort of thing or plans that were underfoot for the

operations of the Senate how they'd affect Republicans

SENEY Now in that case that would be you coming to the leader and saying
This is coming up what do you want me to do on this?

BEVERLY Right

SENEY Because he's obviously the leader But I take it it would go the other way
around

BEVERLY It would work both ways He'd come and say that he was thinking of
doing this and would be requesting the Rules Committee what would I
think they'd do would they accept it Although I was a minority member
I had some influence on the Rules Committee In fact Lockyer used to
say that when he was about to take action with a sledgehammer I used to
calm him down and suggested did he really want to do what he was
planning to do and he'd cool off and either peel back away or drop the
idea completely

SENEY Can you give us an example of that?

BEVERLY No not offhand I think there was an issue where he was going to strip all
Republican chairmen of their chairs and I suggested he didn't want to do
that and he dropped that Things like that

SENEY What would Maddy come to you about and ask you about?

BEVERLY Well he'd talk to me about some of the ideas that were coming out of the

governor's office for example and what did I think of them what should we do I suppose he talked to others too but because we saw each other so frequently we talked We probably dined together three nights a week

SENEY And this dining together was probably more because of your friendship than your political responsibilities?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Or maybe a combination

BEVERLY Yeah I guess a combination We'd talk about appointments to committees staff

SENEY Staff problems new hires

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY I'm trying to draw you out a little because what you take for granted and you understand as just the commonplace operations of the Senate other people who read this will not necessarily know and they'll think about me Why didn't he ask him that? So I don't want them thinking that That's what I'm doing trying to draw you out a little bit more on some of the things that he might come to you and talk to you about or that you might feel it's necessary to raise with him

BEVERLY Well a lot of personnel matters on staffing I talked about campaigns candidates in various parts of the state Leonard was involved in some of

that as caucus chairman more directly Just a host of subjects

SENEY When you dealt with the elections these I take it would be Senate elections would be what you would be interested in

BEVERLY Yeah for the most part

SENEY But there might be Assembly races?

BEVERLY Occasionally an Assembly race

SENEY What would lead you to be interested in an Assembly race? It might be someone who would be looking toward the Senate later or ?

BEVERLY That and it might be the area if it was Maddy's home area or an area I was acquainted with down here San Diego whatever And sometimes an Assembly candidate can help a Senate candidate and you've got a good team running So that discussion went on

SENEY Because now the practice has been for some time for there to be two Assembly seats within each Senate seat so it makes it much clearer than it used to be even a number of years ago
Now Maddy was he unseated by Hurtt?

BEVERLY Yeah as minority leader

SENEY What happened there?

BEVERLY Well there'd been the moderate conservative split all along Maddy probably had when he went in I would guess it was probably 10 to 7 or

something like that I've forgotten. There was always a group of conservatives that were just opposed to Maddy philosophically. Then Hurtt was able to persuade Leonard [Senator] Tim Leslie and [Senator Newton R.] Newt Russell to switch from supporting Maddy to Hurtt. I've never forgiven any of the three frankly. Leonard never would have been caucus chairman if it hadn't been for Maddy. Leslie never would have been elected if it hadn't been for Maddy. He cleared the field and got the governor to support him in that special election. He's in your area again.

SENEY Yes he is right.

BEVERLY And Russell although philosophically he'd never been in tune with Maddy, he was a more conservative guy. Maddy had given him anything he wanted, offered him any appointments he wanted. I thought it was disloyal action on the part of all three. In fact, I got a call the other night from someone who was putting together a fund raiser for Leslie down here for lieutenant governor and I told the gentleman I was not supporting Leslie and he wanted to know why. I said, "Because he's a disloyal gentleman who cast a vote against my close friend as leader of the Republican Senate faction and I could never support him." and I won't. I haven't supported anybody else yet but I sure as hell won't support him.

SENEY Does Leslie have much of a shot at lieutenant governor?

- BEVERLY I guess it's wide open. The only other candidate mentioned is [Assemblyman Brooks] Firestone if Firestone is willing to put up a lot of money.
- SENEY Firestone meaning one of the Firestones of Firestone tire and rubber?
- BEVERLY Yeah. He's an assemblyman from the Santa Barbara area. He's the moderate. Leslie will have a lot of support if he's the only one in it from the Christian anti-abortion group.
- SENEY The Christian Coalition?
- BEVERLY Christian Coalition. I assume. He's very active in the religious activities up there. A pleasant guy and hardworking senator but he's too far to the right for me and the Maddy thing I can never forgive him. So I don't know apparently he has cancer and we don't know how serious that is.
- I've talked to him since then. He called me or I called him. I guess when I read about the cancer situation because I had prostate cancer and had surgery. So I hope he's all right but I don't want him as lieutenant governor.
- SENEY Say a little more about what Maddy did for him in terms of clearing the field and getting the governor to support him.
- BEVERLY Well I know we talked about it a great deal.
- SENEY This was to succeed Doolittle when Doolittle was elected to the Congress.

wasn't it?

BEVERLY I guess it was Well I remember we had a caucus seminar down in Palm Springs in the fall of that year whatever year that was after the election and before the legislative session started

SENEY It was 1990 Doolittle was elected in 1990 I believe

BEVERLY Okay then it was probably November 1990 and Maddy invited Tim to come down as a potential Senate candidate to participate in it We had symposiums on issues in politics and what have you and the governor agreed to come down and Maddy set up the governor with Leslie in a private meeting

SENEY Governor Wilson?

BEVERLY Yeah And persuaded the governor to back Leslie I think there were other candidates talking about running at that time I've forgotten who And the governor agreed to do it and raise money for him and appear for him and so forth And I think Maddy talked to other candidates potential candidates trying to keep them out of the race and raised a lot of money and gave him a big chunk of personal money I think that was one campaign where I threw in a chunk like \$25 000 or something like that

SENEY Would Maddy have asked you to do that?

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY Boy that makes it seem even worse I guess

BEVERLY I just thought it was a disloyal act It wasn't as if Maddy wasn't doing the job But they were persuaded by Hurtt Whether it was because of the religious beliefs or the only plus was Hurtt has always been willing to put his money where his mouth is He's contributed big money like a million and a half dollars personal money I don't know if God knows how much money he's got

SENEY I can't remember what the source of his wealth is

BEVERLY Family carton manufacturing business down in Orange County But he's contributed a lot of money He elected [Assemblyman] Ray Haynes for example out there in Temecula [Senator Dick] Monteith in Modesto So he's had some successes

SENEY But these are people who agree with him and he's a religious right and so forth yeah

What was he like because he was what? the last two years of your term your last term He was elected in '94? Is that right?

BEVERLY It was a special election ¹⁶

SENEY I'm thinking elected minority leader in '94

¹⁶ March 2 1993

BEVERLY Probably right

SENEY Ninety four ninety five What was he like and what is he like? What is your reaction to him?

BEVERLY Well I found him to be a pretty cold fish He was mostly interested only in campaigns and candidates and electing Republicans He was dedicated to that with the ultimate aim of pushing the conservative issues that he believed in which was less taxes less regulation and then the personal issues such as abortion and guns and all that Not a particularly good spokesman for the party Didn't get along with Democrats at all Didn't care much about legislation For example he hasn't involved himself in the budget He was part of the Big 5¹⁷ that negotiated on the budget this year and last but I understand his input is very small But because of his unseating Maddy I'm prejudiced I guess

SENEY I would take it you probably have a fairly good grasp of politics all around this state would you think?

BEVERLY I?

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY Oh no

¹⁷ Governor Wilson The President Pro Tem and of the Senate The Speaker and Minority Leader of the Assembly

SENEY Well you're nodding at me in a sort of modest way. I mean I would think you probably do. From the point of view of a life long Republican and a long time member of the Senate what do you make of Hurtt and other Republicans like him who push the kind of issues that he does? Is this going to be the future of a majority Republican Party or is this not good for the Republican Party?

BEVERLY I think it's fatal for the Republican Party. I could be 180 degrees out of phase. You know we took a Republican majority in Congress running on a pretty right wing issue or set of issues so I could be wrong but judging my own district and contacts and communicating daily with people that's not the future of the Republican Party I think. We've got to be more moderate. And particularly being hurt with freezing out minorities now Latinos we've just about kissed good bye. That may change.

SENEY Would it be your judgment that Latinos are not a group that the Republicans should just write off that there is a big part of them that would naturally gravitate to the Republican Party if they were properly cultivated?

BEVERLY Absolutely. Just reading the last few days about the gentleman Ralph Reed is going to be running a campaign in the old [Congressman Robert K.] Dornan seat down in Orange County. He's going to run the campaign

of a member of the Santa Ana City Council I think some city council down there a Republican There's another candidate a woman who's the chairman of the Lottery Commission on which I serve

SENEY You're a member now of the Lottery Commission?

BEVERLY Yeah appointed a couple of months ago And her name is Lisa Hughes She's also a candidate for that congressional nomination

SENEY On the Republican side

BEVERLY Yeah And [Senator] John Lewis is going to run her campaign Senator John Lewis from Orange County

SENEY And he's very conservative

BEVERLY Very conservative He was a Hurtt supporter But I think Ralph Reed getting the campaign is probably a plus for Lisa Hughes I just don't think that they're ready to go that far but who knows

SENEY Well he's left the Christian Coalition to do just this sort of thing hasn't he?

BEVERLY Yeah right Going to run campaigns around the country

SENEY I guess they think the Hispanic woman [Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez] who unseated Dornan is vulnerable obviously

BEVERLY She'd be hard to beat she's gotten so much publicity But I haven't shed any tears for Dornan He hurt the cause more than he helped it and he

used to represent this district

SENEY You must know him pretty well

BEVERLY Yeah. In fact, he came to see me the year I ran for the Senate. I think it was the same year the congressional seat was open we mentioned earlier today

SENEY Right

BEVERLY He came to me with somebody from Pepperdine whom I knew and he wanted to know whether I was going to run for Congress. If I had agreed to run, he was not going to run. In a way I created him. I won't take any credit for it.

SENEY Well, don't take any blame either.

BEVERLY He's an interesting guy but he's a bit of a nut.

SENEY Besides Dornan, what sort of relationship have you had with the members of Congress from California?

BEVERLY Oh, pretty good. Very close to Jerry Lewis, Chappie.

SENEY Well, Lewis has been influential in the Congress, has he not?

BEVERLY Yes. He had a leadership post before then he was unseated, or he was defeated in a race for the next step up. I forget what it was. And he chairs one of the principal appropriations subcommittees now. He's one of the cardinals, they call him. But I've been close to some of the Democrats.

[Congressman Henry A] Waxman [Congressman Howard L] Berman
[Congressman] Vic Fazio through friendships in Sacramento and then
through Jerry Lewis

SENEY Any sort of political kind of things that you deal with? I mean apart from
being politicians who meet one another frequently and become friends are
there any issues that have affected your district that have needed some
kind of legislation out of the Congress that would cause you to lobby them
or be in contact with them?

BEVERLY Well I supported maritime issues and aerospace issues that were
significant in the district

SENEY Well Hughes Aircraft is in the district isn't it?

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY And what other interests of an aerospace sort?

BEVERLY TRW is major here McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach Depending on
the alignment of the district it's varied over the years Northrop North
American Hughes they were all in here

SENEY And then the harbor at Long Beach

BEVERLY Yeah and San Pedro both

SENEY You know one of the most interesting parts of your district I think is
Santa Catalina Island Do you get out there much? Apparently it's a

hundred percent Republican Is it?

BEVERLY They voted well for me We tended to devote a lot of time to Catalina Island I didn't get out there very much maybe once a year The problems with Catalina are totally out of proportion to its size They have pollution problems water problems power problems you name it

SENEY Water problems as in they have almost no water

BEVERLY Right The only one they have is rainfall In other words if they had a bad year they had no water We've had several times when we had emergency plans on standby to bring water out by tanker and that sort of thing

SENEY Has it had to be done?

BEVERLY No we never had to do it They have a dual system out there They use saltwater for flushing toilets and for fire hydrants that sort of thing We now have a purification plant where they can filter it What's that term?

SENEY Desalinization

BEVERLY Desalinization That's the word I want

SENEY Since the sewer water is separate from the other water do they use the other water for watering plants and that kind of thing? Isn't it called a gray water system?

BEVERLY Reclaimed?

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY I don't think so

SENEY Does having Catalina in your district raise any federal issues for you?

BEVERLY Well we've been involved with this gambling on board vessels also problems with Los Angeles and Long Beach ports. Some of the big passenger liners that take the short cruises stop at Catalina and that's a big source of income to the city

SENEY When you say the city you mean ?

BEVERLY Avalon

SENEY Avalon on Catalina Island

BEVERLY Yeah Avalon is the principal populated area. You've been to the isthmus maybe

SENEY I've never been never

BEVERLY Never been over there?

SENEY No I'd loved to go but have never been

BEVERLY It's an interesting place

SENEY When you say a problem with gambling

BEVERLY Well the big passenger liners go down to Ensenada and San Diego. There's a prohibition against gambling if a vessel goes from one port to another in the state or in the United States. I'm a little confused on it now

but it was something Congress could cure by legislation. I think they finally have

SENEY So if they go from Long Beach to Avalon then down to Mexico they're not supposed to gamble

BEVERLY That's basically it. I'm a little hazy on it now but it caused a problem. Little problems kept rearing their head on Catalina like the motorcycle helmet law. Well, there are very few cars over in Catalina. A lot of people use motorbikes and they have to wear helmets. It's a little silly for an old lady putt-putting down the street to have to put on a goddamn helmet to go to the market and they didn't like it and we tried to change that law.¹⁸

SENEY Were you successful?

BEVERLY No. I don't think we were. I think they ignore it though. There are special traffic rules though in Catalina and the speed limits are like 20 miles an hour something like that. Smog rules have been legislated out so you can burn over there and do some things you can't do over here. It's an interesting place. We had legislation protecting some of the waters some

¹⁸ S B 1296 1991 1992 Reg Sess (1992)

of the fish creating a sanctuary where there s no fishing ¹⁹

SENEY Well that was your legislation wasn t it to create a marine sanctuary over there

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And that doesn t bring you into contact with the federal government over that sort of thing?

BEVERLY I don t think that did But by contrast the largest city in the district forgetting Los Angeles is Long Beach but with a sophisticated experienced staff the problems of dealing with Long Beach are much less than they are in Catalina

SENEY That s interesting huh?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY What sort of things would you deal with with the City of Long Beach?

BEVERLY Oh some things in the port [California] Coastal Commission problems with dredging and filling some crime stuff The Queen Mary was involved at times But it s a big city with major urban problems but they re pretty sophisticated people they can deal with it themselves and they have their own lobbyists in Washington [D C] and Sacramento

¹⁹ S B 2131 1987 1988 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 682 (1988)

SENEY And that's who you'd primarily deal with over problems of Long Beach. Their lobbyist would give you a call and say that we need legislation for this or something's a problem.

BEVERLY Yeah. I had a close relationship with the members of the city council too which because of my background in local government. I've always maintained with all the cities. Probably in every election I had 98 percent of the city officials' endorsement.

SENEY You know, one of the things that was in the news in the period I looked at your career over in Long Beach was Disney's attempt to build a park over there. According to the news reports²⁰ at any rate, Disney just came crashing through the Legislature like a bull elephant without much regard for sensitivities. Can you talk a little bit about that?

BEVERLY Well, I didn't even know about their original bill seeking approval. They went to a lobbyist [Donald K.] Don Brown, who says he didn't realize that I represented Long Beach, and he had the bill introduced by Maddy.²¹ Maddy didn't know a hell of a lot about it; his staff had handled the whole thing. I was a little perturbed that they would have a San Joaquin Valley

²⁰ *Los Angeles Times*, June 30, 1991, Part J, page 1.

²¹ S.B. 1062, 1991-1992 Reg. Sess. (1991).

legislator carrying a thing for Long Beach without even talking to me

SENEY Well Don Brown is one of the most prominent and skilled lobbyists in Sacramento isn't he?

BEVERLY That's right One of the high power ones So we finally made our peace over that and I supported the bill but it died somewhere along the way in the Assembly I guess

SENEY Did it?

BEVERLY Yeah I forget what it did now

SENEY It was to build a theme park

BEVERLY Yeah but the bill had something to do with the

SENEY Overriding Let me turn this over Senator

[Begin Tape 4 Side B]

SENEY My recollection is that the bill was designed to override environmental regulations of the Coastal Commission to allow dredging and filling of what 250 acres for a waterfront theme park by Disney?²²

BEVERLY Yeah something like that or the environmental impact reports involving

²² Critics contend that the entertainment giant came off in Sacramento as arrogant and stumble footed in attempting to ramrod through the Legislature a bill that would have amended the California Coastal Act to allow filling in 250 acres of Ocean in Queensway Bay *Los Angeles Times* ibid

the same thing

SENEY Right And that there was a fair amount of power Who else was involved in it? Would Senator Dills have been interested in this as well?

BEVERLY He could have been because he always represented portions of Long Beach Before I had the harbor he represented it He still has part of the city

SENEY And the idea was that gee you guys are not so clever after all you know how can Disney make such blunders? And one comment that was made and I don't think it was made by you was that apparently the reputation is that Disney is so used to getting what it wants out of the Florida Legislature over their Disney World operation that they just thought the same thing with the California Legislature

BEVERLY Maybe I don't know

SENEY Do you remember that particularly as a kind of an affront to the Legislature and not going about things the way they should be gone about?

BEVERLY Well it was an affront to Dills and me and therefore probably to others as well The city was divided on the issue There wasn't total support for that development They didn't have their homework done down there either

SENEY If there had been total support for it and strong backing by the city you

probably would have maybe overlooked the breach of protocol?

BEVERLY I ultimately supported it anyway Disney came down hat in hand and so did Big O Brown²³ and Don had been a pretty good friend of mine He used to live in San Pedro he was a constituent

SENEY Well you must know him pretty well I would think over the years

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY Maybe tomorrow we'll talk about some of the lobbyists and the way in which lobbying works and all that kind of thing You didn't have anything to do with the demise of that over in the Assembly did you?

BEVERLY No I didn't I'm not sure did it get to the Assembly?

SENEY You know I'm not sure if it did either Let me look it up and I'll bring it up again tomorrow But the Legislature is a place where protocol is important and where procedure is important and where if you go about something incorrectly and step on the wrong kind of toes that

BEVERLY I'll give you another example I carried a bill exempting some facet of the Olympics that were being held in Los Angeles in 1984 exempted it from

²³ Long time Sacramento lobbyist Donald Kent BrOwn spells his last name with a capital O

some environmental impact reports²⁴ I forget exactly what it was but it was deemed essential by the City of L A in order to make their bid and it passed with some opposition I remember [Senator] Alan Robbins opposed it Of course everybody fell in line later embracing the Olympics it was so successful including Robbins But I was asked to carry a similar bill some years later involving the L A Coliseum²⁵ Before I would touch that bill I would call [Senator] Bill Greene the Black senator who represented that area I wouldn't think of introducing a bill affecting them without talking to him In fact if he wanted the bill I would have given it to him but he was grateful for the call and appreciated it and supported it They ultimately dropped it they abandoned the project But that's the sort of thing that's important

SENEY And you must have done the same thing in '84 prior to the '84 Olympics when you carried that piece of legislation in L A as well

BEVERLY Well I represented a portion of L A

SENEY So it was all right?

BEVERLY Yeah

²⁴ Unable to verify

²⁵ Unable to verify

SENEY And the Olympics would have been something which would have had an area wide impact right?

BEVERLY Right

SENEY So it wasn't so much a specific bill

Let me ask you about the governors that you have served under That begins with Ronald Reagan But maybe you could go back and say something about [Governor] Pat Brown because you were around the Legislature at any rate though not a member when Pat Brown was governor If you were lobbying on things you must have had to deal with not only the Legislature but ultimately if something was to be signed the Brown administration as well

BEVERLY Yeah I was not close to Pat Brown I met him on numerous occasions We met on some freeway problems in the district and in the area when I was a city council member and with the League of California Cities the division president I admired Brown and enjoyed working with him He had his weak moments He looked bad in the year of [President John F] Kennedy's nomination in 1960 in the Caryl Chessman case and a few other things He's like fine wine he's improved with age and did That's it about Brown

SENEY What about Reagan?

BEVERLY Well Reagan was the most interesting and exciting governor of the time I served in the Legislature and he had that celebrity aura about him and just entirely different It was a Republican takeover from the Democratic administration so it was kind of a sunrise And I enjoyed working with him and with his people We had good relations and his door was always open I never had any trouble seeing him as minority leader or before that He campaigned for me when I ran in that special election He was the headliner at at least two major fund raisers I think

SENEY And he was a great fund raiser was he not?

BEVERLY Yes And I supported him He was a pretty good governor You always knew where he stood

SENEY Did he have a good grasp do you think of the problems of California government?

BEVERLY Oh probably not He had a basic philosophy that he adhered to and pretty much stuck to it and you knew where he'd be When it came to detail he was not much of a [detail] man he wouldn't sit down and negotiate a budget But he had some pretty good people around him

SENEY When you say pretty good people who would you think of?

BEVERLY Oh I'm thinking of Vern Orr

SENEY Finance director?

- BEVERLY Yeah He had some other post before that
- SENEY How about [Casper] Weinberger as Finance director?
- BEVERLY Yeah good man Weinberger had been in my wing in the party close to Bagley and Monagan Paul Harley was judicial appointment secretary We had a relationship through our law firms I thought he was capable He made some good judicial appointments
- SENEY By the way have you funneled names for judicial appointments into the various governors and been successful at getting people appointed?
- BEVERLY Oh yeah Won some lost some Most of those I've gone strongly about for have been appointed
- SENEY What would if I'm a long time attorney and someone you know well and I decide I'm tired of the practice because I know that can be very wearying and obviously it's something you chose not to do you got tired of it and went into politics and other business too or just politics pretty much as a livelihood?
- BEVERLY Oh I've invested in some properties
- SENEY And I would be say active in this case in Republican politics Would I come to you and say Geez Bob it looks like there's going to be a new superior court over here would you think about me for superior court judge?

BEVERLY It frequently happened

SENEY That wouldn't be something that you could probably ignore and you'd have to then what look into them a little bit and figure out if you wanted to support them?

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY How would you go about doing that kind of thing?

BEVERLY Well there are a number that would contact you that you knew were Republicans and they're probably qualified and you write a pro forma letter. There are others you get more serious about like the fellow who's been my life long friend and has been helpful in my campaigns. When he was applying for a judgeship I went all out.

SENEY What does that mean when you would go all out?

BEVERLY It means contacting the governor personally talking to him personally talking to his appointment secretary counseling the guy along the way.

SENEY On how to handle himself in the process?

BEVERLY Yeah. A lot of judicial applicants they've been involved in politics to a degree themselves and they'll contact somebody on the governor's staff but it's then wise to contact the assemblyman and senator from the area involved. It's a little more complex in Los Angeles. But you'd better be qualified. I've never supported anybody who I didn't feel was qualified.

SENEY Well I was going to say this would be among the more serious things you would probably undertake I would think long term putting someone on the bench for 15 or 20 years to decide important questions and seal people's fate I'm sure you must have regarded it that way

BEVERLY Sure Legislators are an important source of support A legislator can probably in most cases stop an appointment that he's opposed to You can't always gain what you want

SENEY Would say the Reagan people come to you if there were someone up for a judicial appointment in your district whose name they didn't put forward and say so and so is on the list any problems with so and so?

BEVERLY The judicial appointment secretary Paul Harley would often call me I also carried a bill that Harley and I familiarly called the Beverly Harley Judicial Reform Act that permitted a judge who's a resident of L A County to be appointed to any municipal court²⁶ Before that you had to live in the municipal judicial district so good a lot of good Republicans who lived in Palos Verdes and Rolling Hills and places like that couldn't be appointed to the L A Muni Court You had to live in the inner city We changed that

²⁶ A B 1389 1969 1970 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 352 (1970)

- SENEY What about the appeals court judges? Would that ever come to you or would it be just the municipal and superior court?
- BEVERLY No I helped to obtain appointments for appellate judges or elevations from the superior court for the most part
- SENEY And again the call might be what do you know about this person or would someone come to you and say
- BEVERLY Well largely they wouldn't normally come to me because they had enough background on them at least somebody who was being elevated That isn't always the case Sometimes they pull them right out of the profession Those appointments were approved by the three man body²⁷ the attorney general the chief justice and the presiding justice of the court of appeal involved So I would often contact them by letter supporting somebody
- Both Republicans and Democrats
- SENEY During this period did the Reagan administration have a sort of litmus test as to the kind of judges they wanted and would there be kind of political questions asked?

²⁷ The Commission on Judicial Appointments

BEVERLY Well I think with any governor you look for somebody who's been supportive of you or your party but not always If you're not so it's not necessarily fatal The big thing with the Reagan people I guess was they wanted conservative judges who were not what's the proper term now? activists [they wanted people] who don't legislate who follow the law And his appointments were pretty good for the most part I think most governor's appointments are pretty good Jerry Brown had some strange ones

SENEY Well that came from his view of the kind of judge you should have or the judiciary should reflect the population as a whole which it didn't particularly before I mean it reflected the legal profession rather than the population as a whole

BEVERLY Yeah But I've known life long Democrat judges One's a neighbor here Bill Keene who was appointed by Pat Brown elevated by Pat Brown to the superior court as presiding judge of the criminal court in L A for many years and a loyal Democrat who couldn't handle [Chief Justice] Rose [Elizabeth] Bird and became a strong Republican over that issue and he was not alone

SENEY I want to ask you about Rose Bird so why don't we just do that now Did you play any part in that election in '86 when Rose Bird was defeated?

BEVERLY I voted to remove her I did not take an active part in the campaign primarily because I was a member of a law firm I didn't want to get involved

SENEY And your name still appears on the letterhead as of counsel or something of that sort?

BEVERLY Yeah And there were a lot of cases pending in the office that were in the courts and before the appellate court so I stayed out

SENEY Thinking that even the appearance of being on one side or the other was probably inappropriate?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And maybe dangerous almost even?

BEVERLY Well

SENEY I guess that's what we're saying

BEVERLY It wouldn't help the firm

SENEY What was your take on Rose Bird?

BEVERLY I liked Rose Bird personally I had known her when she was on the governor's staff She was Secretary of Ag[riculture] & Services and knew what was going on And I had a lot of friends In fact Jerry and I were friends So I knew her and liked her but I did not agree with a good many of her decisions I thought she was off base on tort law capital

punishment What was it? Sixty one straight reversals She was philosophically way out of tune with me

SENEY Well it wasn't just the death penalty reversals which were based upon Proposition 7²⁸ which was approved by the voters in 1978 and changed the rules of procedures and those opinions I think were generated under as those rules were perfected those initiative based rules But certainly in the public's mind the reversal of all those death penalty sentences was important But I've had Republicans that I have interviewed on this project tell me that the real issue was reapportionment That's what brought the Republican establishment out against her That's what brought Deukmejian's heavy support against her and [Associate Justice Cruz] Reynoso's and [Associate Justice Joseph R.] Grodin's rejection at the polls in '86 and that's what brought skilled Republican political operatives into the campaign working for the victims You remember it was the victims families There was a name and I can't remember that was really the organization that seemed to be opposing and the ads played on that theme Some of them were very melodramatic and very effective Do you remember the one with the little girl's picture in a ballet costume and the

²⁸ November 7 1978

ballet music playing the practice music playing and the mother saying

She'll never come home again and the man who killed her was let out by
Rose Bird ?

BEVERLY Oh yeah Bill Richardson was very much involved in that

SENEY Was he?

BEVERLY Yeah But I don't remember reapportionment being the issue in that

SENEY Well it wasn't an issue so much on the surface as it was underneath It
brought out again organized Republican opposition Remember those
reapportionment decisions in the early '80s when the Rose Bird court
threw the [Assemblyman Don] Sebastiani initiative off the ballot on the
grounds that the Constitution said reapportionment was to be dealt with
once a decade it had been dealt with and there couldn't be another
initiative there couldn't be an initiative on it?

BEVERLY I'm a little hazy on that I can't recall whether it was subliminal or what it
was that it was much of an issue in the recall

SENEY I don't want to belabor it but not again at the level of public perception
At that level it was the death penalty question That's what had the
emotion behind it But again I've had others including Gene

Chappie²⁹ and Steve Merksamer³⁰ tell me that what really caused the Republicans to get active in this business was their bitterness over the reapportionment decisions Willie Brown saying Rosie and the Supremes have saved us again and that kind of thing

BEVERLY It might have been but it doesn't ring a bell with me It wasn't a factor in my decision

SENEY Let me ask you you were talking about Reagan as governor Do you contrast Reagan as governor with Reagan as president in terms of his politics? Some people say he became much more conservative when he was president Is that your impression too?

BEVERLY He was more conservative?

SENEY As governor he was really fairly moderate some people say

BEVERLY He moderated some issues like abortion signed a bill a significant change Ultimately embraced withholding [of state income tax]

SENEY Right

²⁹ Oral history interview with Eugene A. Chappie 1990 oral history transcript / by Donald B. Seney University Archives California State University Sacramento for the State Government Oral History Program California State Archives

³⁰ Oral history interview with Steven A. Merksamer 1994 oral history transcript / by Donald B. Seney University Archives California State University Sacramento for the State Government Oral History Program California State Archives

BEVERLY I didn't particularly note any great change in philosophy. He still had many of the same people around him.

SENEY Right. [Edwin] Ed Meese [III] was there. Casper Weinberger. William [P.] Clark [Jr.]

BEVERLY Yeah. I didn't see that. I read Lou Cannon's book³¹ not too long ago. Finally got around to reading it. I didn't pick that up from that book either.

SENEY Didn't you?

BEVERLY No, not a change.

SENEY He was a governor who would entertain the legislators frequently. You must have been to his home on numerous occasions. I would think.

BEVERLY Yeah. He had regular social events out at the home on 41st Street or whatever street it was, and he put on some great entertainment. He had people like Jack Benny and Red Skelton and Danny Thomas. They were delightful evenings. And he was a congenial guy to deal with. We used to even run a set of electric trains down in his basement.

SENEY Was that a hobby of his?

BEVERLY I don't think so, but he had a rather elaborate thing. Whether it was for the kids or who, I don't know.

³¹ Lou Cannon *Reagan* Putnam (New York) 1982

SENEY Did you get the feeling that Mrs [Nancy] Reagan played much of a role in what went on?

BEVERLY Oh yeah In the office among the staff there was some unhappiness with her and thought she meddled too much I have no way of knowing personally But I always found her pleasant She certainly was influential in his life and his actions I didn't doubt that but it posed no problem for me

I've been close to Maureen Reagan over the years in politics She helped me in my campaign for the Senate In fact I supported her for the U S Senate never dreaming she'd stay in it and be a serious candidate I told Pete [Wilson] not to worry she'd probably drop out and I'd endorse Pete

SENEY But she stuck it out

BEVERLY She stuck it out Ken Maddy and I both stayed with her because she had helped me and she had helped Ken in his campaign for governor She endorsed him and campaigned around the state for him Later on she ran against my son for Congress down here

SENEY Well Senator why don't we leave it there for today

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[Begin Tape 5 Side A]

SENEY Good morning Senator

BEVERLY Good morning

SENEY When we stopped yesterday we were talking about the governors and sort of going through them and we talked about Governor Reagan I think pretty much we had completed maybe what I wanted to ask about Governor Reagan We may come back to him some more but I want to ask you about Jerry Brown now in the 1974 election First of all did you take part in the '74 gubernatorial election for Mr [Houston I] Flournoy?

BEVERLY Yes I had been a friend of Hugh's from the time he was elected controller in 1966 and I knew him as an assemblyman before that before I was there I participated in that campaign raised a little money for him and had endorsed him in the primary

SENEY You know you've mentioned several times that you've raised money for people Are you known as a good money raiser?

BEVERLY No not particularly

SENEY You said that almost too fast

BEVERLY I didn't do much fund raising on my own I raised some money for some candidates but not a great deal

SENEY Say for someone like Houston Flournoy if he wanted you to raise money for him or wanted you to take part in the campaign I suppose he would come to you or you would even come to him and say 'Listen I want to give you a hand what can I do? Something that's always necessary is money How did that work? I mean I don't want to put words in your mouth Do you remember how you got involved in the campaign?

BEVERLY Well Flournoy was part of the Monagan Veneman Bagley moderate group in the Legislature so I knew him through that contact and it was just natural for me to support him I forgot now who ran in that primary³² I'm sure there was primary opposition

SENEY You know I can't remember who ran either in the primary in 1974 Do you remember what overshadowed that primary in 1974? It really affected the Democrats Certainly Moretti thought so It was the Patricia Hearst kidnapping

BEVERLY I don't know I remember the incident of the kidnapping but I don't remember how it affected the campaign

SENEY Well it played out all during that period of February to June and it just dominated the headlines and from the Democrats point of view

³² Lt Governor Ed Reinecke was the only other candidate for Governor in the 1974 Republican primary

remember that was a crowded field We mentioned Senator Moscone as to he was running Moretti was running The mayor of San Francisco Joseph Alioto was running and Jerry Brown was running Certainly Alioto has expressed and Moretti too the view that the Patricia Hearst kidnapping just kept their names out of the press The best known name was Jerry Brown's the secretary of state's But you don't recall it playing a role on the Republican side

BEVERLY The Hearst kidnapping?

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY No I don't The one issue I can remember from the campaign is Jerry's support of the farmworkers and Houston countering that by getting the support of the employers of the agricultural community That was a significant issue and he probably didn't play that card as hard as he should have That was a close race

SENEY Right it was Again how did you get involved with him? Did he call you? Do you remember?

BEVERLY I don't remember It was a natural because of my contacts with Monagan and Hugh himself One of the first votes I cast when I got to the Assembly was to do away with the or modify the inheritance tax appraiser appointment process and that was Flournoy's pet So we had that contact

SENEY He wanted to reform that

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY That had been one of the abuses in the controller's office hadn't it the assignment of inheritance tax appraisers

BEVERLY Allegedly And it was

SENEY Yeah I guess he had the power under certain circumstances to the controller did to assign people to appraise estates and that was often very little work and could be quite lucrative I can remember some sort of percentage amount was involved

BEVERLY Mm hm He had virtually unbridled discretion in making the appointments

SENEY Can that still be done? Is that still done today?

BEVERLY We still have an inheritance tax appraiser I think he's called a referee but it's now by examination and a much cleaner process

SENEY So Brown is elected That was not a good year for Republicans of course

BEVERLY No

SENEY It was very bad for the Legislature The Watergate business was overhanging all of these Republican elections

BEVERLY Right

SENEY In fact it was probably one of the low points was it not?

BEVERLY Yeah We might have gone lower in the next election but both were low

SENEY In '76 I think the Legislature did go lower And in this election with the exception of the Republican Attorney General Evelle Younger all the other statewide partisan offices went to Democrats³³

BEVERLY That might have been I don't recall

SENEY It was a Democratic year What was your reaction to Jerry Brown's election as governor and his candidacy?

BEVERLY Well I had some contact with Jerry We used to dine occasionally when he was secretary of state He was a frequenter of Frank Fats as was I and we'd quite often have dinner together or a drink together Personally I had no problem Philosophically he was way apart from me and the business community tort issues and the like

SENEY What kind of a governor do you think he turned out to be?

BEVERLY Well in my view I disagreed with so many of his judicial appointments I disagreed with his positions on tort reform and other general issues of interest I would have to say he was not a good governor

SENEY When you say tort reform ' what do you mean by that?

³³ Mervyn Dymally (D) was elected Lt Governor Jesse M Unruh (D) was elected Treasurer Ken Cory (D) was elected controller and March Fong Eu (D) was elected Secretary of State

BEVERLY Well there's been a running battle I guess is appropriate between the plaintiffs lawyers and the defense bar basically the business community and the plaintiffs lawyers and Jerry tended to be a plaintiff's lawyer man anti business and his administration was anti business I didn't think it was good for California and didn't agree with my philosophy

SENEY Your district is one like the rest of Southern California that depends on freeways for transportation What was your reaction to his appointment of Adrianna Gianturco and her policies in terms of freeways? And his too They were really his policies

BEVERLY Well he virtually put an end to freeway projects as I remember to champion that side I did not agree with him I thought we needed freeways and rapid transit and all modes of transportation

SENEY Did he do anything here in your district? Did he put a stop to any of the projects here in your district do you recall?

BEVERLY I don't think so Our freeway complex was virtually complete or under construction and we had eliminated a controversial freeway through the beach cities the so called Pacific Coast freeway I carried legislation on that several years before that ³⁴

³⁴ A B 329 1971 1972 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 963 (1971)

SENEY Opposing that

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY This would have been a freeway which would have essentially gone right down the beach?

BEVERLY Right Or close to it It would have divided the Westchester community El Segundo Manhattan Hermosa Redondo and gone on down and led us through Newport Beach and down that area So it was controversial

SENEY I don't suppose you had a lot of trouble getting people along those beach communities to support that

BEVERLY Oh no Most of them were in support

SENEY What about some of his other appointments the Health and Welfare Secretary Manuel Obledo?

BEVERLY I didn't get into that field much You know the general reputé of the appointees was extremely liberal and it wasn't my cup of tea or my colleagues

SENEY You know one of the things you mentioned briefly yesterday was the fact that Jerry Brown's vetoes were overridden Do you remember what those vetoes were?

BEVERLY No I can't recall

SENEY If I may refresh your memory

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY This was in the aftermath of Proposition 13 when if you remember that bailout legislation for the local governments to make up for the funds taken away by Prop 13 The Legislature had said that there could be no raises for local government workers The problem was that a lot of these local government workers had union contracts of one kind or another which required raises and the state of course can't interfere with those obligations and so those raises had to go through Then the State Legislature decided that it was only fair that state workers get raises too under those circumstances My recollection is that a lot of those bills had to do with raising state workers pay

BEVERLY Frankly I don't recall that I don't know how we could control local raises

SENEY Well apparently in the bailout legislation that attempt was made Money was given but said you can operate but you can't increase salaries with this money and that turned out not to be workable because again the teachers the firefighters social workers many of the employees are unionized and had contracts that called for raises

BEVERLY I don't remember any details on that issue It was always a running controversy over whether local government was spending too much

money on it or was profligate or whatever

SENEY You know you mentioned that you had no trouble getting in to see Ronald Reagan if you wanted to see him about some matter What about Jerry Brown? Was his door open?

BEVERLY Yeah I had no trouble

SENEY What kinds of things would you go see him about?

BEVERLY I think we had some talk about budget I do remember a group of fishermen coming up from San Pedro which was a major commercial fishing port and in my district and arranging a meeting with Jerry to discuss fishing problems and in particular the appointment of a commercial fishing representative to the Fish and Game Commission There had never been one as far as I know and he was somewhat receptive I think ultimately he did appoint somebody who has some commercial ties Not the man we wanted but he listened

SENEY My understanding is that he was interested in a few subject areas as governor and the rest he didn't pay a whole lot of attention to

BEVERLY That's true He jumped from issue to issue Jerry was seen a lot though around town He was in the restaurants and in Frank Fats and David's Brass Rail which was a haunt across the street from the Capitol and you often would get to talk to him at night

SENEY Even if you might not make an appointment you d run into him and discuss some matter

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY He was open to that and amenable to that?

BEVERLY Right

SENEY My understanding too is that because he took so little interest in some things and jumped from subject to subject that his chiefs of staff were especially important

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY And you must have worked with Gray Davis

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY What was he like?

BEVERLY Well a very bright guy and loyal to Jerry but he listened He was a bit of a cold fish but probably not as liberal as Jerry was himself We got along

SENEY Subsequently he has been elected to the Assembly and is now the state controller

BEVERLY Lieutenant governor

SENEY Lieutenant governor that s right Was controller is now lieutenant governor and is positioning himself I guess to run for governor

BEVERLY Right

SENEY Some people say it'll be another term for him that he's been governor already. Would you say that?

BEVERLY There's probably something to that. When Jerry ran for president in particular, he was absent from the state quite a bit, and although who was lieutenant governor? Curb?

SENEY Curb, right.

BEVERLY During part of it, and Curb was ostensibly the governor, but it was Gray Davis who ran the show. He had other aides that I probably saw more than Gray Davis. All of them later became judges or justices for that matter. There was Paul [Halvonik] what was his name? He went on the supreme court and then got involved in a marijuana growing controversy at his home and resigned.

SENEY Right. It's a French name, isn't it? I'm trying to think. We'll look it up and insert it.

BEVERLY There was another justice who's on the

SENEY [T] Anthony Kline?

BEVERLY Tony Kline was another, and I was thinking of one from San Jose that sits on the court of appeal that sits in San Jose. I can't think of his name offhand. But I had more dealings with that level.

SENEY So you wouldn't necessarily just take it right to the governor. You'd deal

with one of his aides?

BEVERLY There were liaison with the Legislature by appointment

SENEY Right What about B T Collins who was a very interesting individual who also served as his chief of staff?

BEVERLY I knew B T from the beginning when he was what was he? the head of the

SENEY CCC [California Conservation Corps]?

BEVERLY Yeah And a real character but a strong guy and a good man and we had a good relationship B T Had a lot of respect for ex marines

SENEY And you being an ex marine of course

BEVERLY Yes And we had a group of legislative marines that met annually with a big wing ding and B T would always attend that although he had not been a marine he was in the Army But he remembered marine birthdays and always sent notes So we had a pretty close relationship That communication continued in places like David s Brass Rail And what was the other famous place?

SENEY Ellis s?

BEVERLY Well there was Ellis s

SENEY The Torch Club?

BEVERLY Torch Club yeah

SENEY That was a major watering hole during the Jerry Brown administration wasn't it?

BEVERLY Right At that time it was located right near Frank Fats It later moved

SENEY And those meeting places are important huh?

BEVERLY A lot of communication took place and a lot of discussion A lot of issues settled in the so called corner booth at Fats I think We later named that the Garibaldi Booth and had a ceremony for the judge

SENEY The famous lobbyist

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Well there's a story about tort reform being settled at Frank Fats

BEVERLY Right the famous napkin agreement or tablecloth whatever it was

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY Lockyer was instrumental on that

SENEY Is that right?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY That it was sketched out on a tablecloth and with Frank Fats permission the tablecloth was taken back and used as the basis for the bill I guess

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY You know there's some people who would be critical of Brown and I guess as you would be as well because he didn't pay enough attention to

state business during a period that was critical for the state that things were going on in the state we were beginning to have a larger influx of immigrant population for example during this period That the demographics of the state were changing that the schools especially were being impacted by this and that he didn't take a critical leadership role at a time when there should have been someone doing that Was that your general feeling about him?

BEVERLY Yeah I think that's accurate and I remember particularly on budget fights the Republicans held up the budget We held it up in the Assembly for more money for education That has turned around Maybe not this year

SENEY Yeah because that's something that you generally identify the Democrats doing rather than the Republicans

BEVERLY That's right

SENEY Did Jerry Brown's runs for president in '76 or '80 have an impact in any way?

BEVERLY Well anytime the governor is not participating in the process has an impact I suppose and things tend to drift and you get no answers or leadership from the governor's office That occurred

SENEY In '76 as you remember I'm sure he did fairly well He bumped [President Jimmy] Carter pretty well in some states I think Michigan he

did well in Wisconsin he did well in Did that have the effect of increasing his prestige somewhat that he looked like a kind of viable candidate?

BEVERLY I don't think so I never viewed it that way and I'm not sure anybody ever thought he would win

SENEY Because '80 turned out to be a disaster for him

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY That didn't have the reverse effect of diminishing his prestige

BEVERLY No it was already at pretty low ebb then When did he run for U S Senate?

SENEY Eighty two

BEVERLY Pete Wilson beat him

SENEY Pete Wilson beat him right Rather handily in '82

BEVERLY Right

SENEY What would you regard as maybe his biggest specific blunders?

BEVERLY Well the second presidential race certainly if not both His Rose Bird appointment which we discussed yesterday and his general appointments far out people at least in the view of the Republicans and I think the general public

SENEY Of course at the beginning you were in the Assembly but later you were

in the Senate I don't recall that the Republicans held up any of his appointments Did they give him any grief over any of them?

BEVERLY I don't think so Again the Democrats had control of the Rules Committee and the majority of the Senate That's the only place the appointments would have been held up

SENEY And the critical forum is really the Rules Committee isn't it for the appointments process

When Deukmejian became governor was that a surprise to you having known him in the Legislature that he would end up as governor?

BEVERLY Well I certainly would not have viewed it as a likelihood when I knew Deukmejian in the Assembly and in my Senate days We were there a couple of years together I guess After he became attorney general that's such a good post from which to run for governor that any A G can become governor You have the crime issue environment consumer issues all of those things You have a bully pulpit So I wasn't totally surprised and I backed Duke along with a handful of Republicans I think I mentioned yesterday

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Against Curb and whoever else ran

SENEY I can't remember who else ran now Curb and Deukmejian were the major

players in this. My understanding is that Curb was the choice of the sort of the Republican king makers and whatnot in the state. Let me preface that by saying that my understanding is the Republicans are better than the Democrats at narrowing the field when they want to narrow the field. You talked about the business with Tim Leslie yesterday and the governor prevailing on people not to run and Maddy prevailing on people not to run. My feeling is that the Republican Party does that better than the Democrats. Would you maybe agree with that?

BEVERLY: Probably so.

SENEY: And my understanding is that in the case of Curb that and I wanted to ask you about him in the case of Curb especially for the '82 race that Deukmejian was prevailed upon to stay out of that race and to leave it to Curb.

BEVERLY: Yeah. I was not part of any of those discussions but I think that's accurate. The old kitchen cabinet types of Reagan supported Curb.

SENEY: Right. Justin Dart and Henry Salvatori. I think David Murdock was involved.

BEVERLY: Probably so.

SENEY: And at this point apparently former President [Gerald R.] Ford was named as one of the people that was involved in that.

- BEVERLY I don't remember that
- SENEY But you supported Deukmejian in the primary
- BEVERLY I represented the Long Beach area by then which was Deukmejian country his home so I had that loyalty and tie But Duke was certainly no liberal but he was less conservative than Curb at least on most of the issues I was involved with
- SENEY What did you think of Curb? I mean he sort of came out of nowhere in '78 to beat Mervyn Dymally the incumbent
- BEVERLY Yeah I liked him personally We had a pretty good relationship I tried to help him in the Senate meeting senators and communicating a little bit keeping him off the rostrum He wasn't well informed and wasn't that bright in my opinion
- SENEY Did you like Dymally? Were you a friend of his the man he beat for lieutenant governor who'd been a senator?
- BEVERLY Oh casual friend because he was from the L A area I'd known him over the years but he was less than a perfect model for a legislator
- SENEY There's an article here about Curb from the *California Journal* This is the November '79 issue of the *California Journal* and it refers to you here and then quotes you It says here that there was a chamber of commerce meeting a board of directors meeting of the chamber of commerce and

Curb was asked to introduce the members of the Senate who were in attendance at the meeting and so he looked around and he only recognized you and it says As Beverly recalls Curb quietly asked Beverly if there were any more senators in the room As it turned out Curb was surrounded by half a dozen senators some of them senior committee chairmen ³⁵

BEVERLY People like Alquist and so forth were there and he didn't know them didn't introduce them I remember that occasion It was the board of directors of the L A Chamber

SENEY It says the state chamber here but I'm sure you're right

BEVERLY Yeah Could have been the state chamber Either way

SENEY It goes on to you're quoted here This is with quotation marks In terms of Republican Central Committee types he is probably high in their eyes but within the Legislature there is a general air of amazement ³⁶
end quote

BEVERLY That's accurate

SENEY I guess what I want to try to ask you about is if you viewed him maybe as

³⁵ *California Journal* Vol X No 11 (November 1979) page 386

³⁶ ibid

someone who others had put forward thinking they could use I mean here's someone who doesn't know a lot about state government and he's kind of a I don't want to say a tool that's maybe too harsh but he's not a man who knows government on his own or would be there if he didn't have the support of these people

BEVERLY Oh I think that's true Maybe tool is the word I don't know where the hell he came from frankly I can't remember his rise when he first came on the horizon It seems like we suddenly woke up and there he was I guess he'd done a lot of fund raising and support activity for Reagan and some other Republicans Because most of the legislators supported Curb in his primary bid for governor As I said only a handful of us supported Duke

SENEY When you say legislators you're obviously meaning Republican legislators in this case

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY How do you explain that?

BEVERLY Probably because he had the support of that kitchen cabinet group and was viewed as more conservative and it was the conservatism I'm talking about

SENEY You know as I've told you I've interviewed Steve Merksamer³⁷ who was of course the chief of staff to Deukmejian and was very close to Deukmejian and in his interview he recounts that one of the kitchen cabinet people was actually on the phone with Deukmejian saying We want Curb for governor you can have senator if you want it and apparently that's just the wrong way to approach Deukmejian who's the kind of individual who's not likely to take well to that sort of thing

BEVERLY True

SENEY And the critical element in Deukmejian's being able to sort of I don't want to say cross these people but not go along with them was his Armenian heritage and the fact that he had within the Armenian community a natural source of campaign funds Does that sound right to you?

BEVERLY Yeah it makes sense I'm not aware of those details but it's a responsible view

SENEY There's one other question I wanted to ask you about supporting Deukmejian I don't know if you were right next to one another as assemblymembers maybe there was a district in between you or were you in adjacent districts as assemblymembers?

³⁷ Oral History Interview with Steven A. Merksamer op cit

BEVERLY There was a district in between

SENEY But as senators you were neighbors your districts

BEVERLY I took his seat A large part of it

SENEY Oh I see You mean in the reapportionment

BEVERLY Yeah he left the Senate when I entered No wait a minute I guess there was an overlap When was he elected attorney general?

SENEY He was elected attorney general in '78 so there's a two year overlap between the two of you

BEVERLY Yeah there was a two year overlap Of course he was the minority leader when I got there

SENEY But you mean when the '80 reapportionment came along then you got part of his constituency

BEVERLY Yeah that was it

SENEY Now I guess I want to ask kind of a political question here Did you feel that given the support he'd always had there and the popularity of his in the community that your hands were kind of tied that you'd better support him

BEVERLY I suppose that was a factor and certainly it made sense because he and Dan Lungren are very very well respected in Long Beach and they've earned that respect They've been hardworking good legislators But it

was also a matter of philosophy as well

SENEY Sure What did you do on his behalf?

BEVERLY Again I might have gotten some contributions I think I made some
myself Made some appearances

SENEY I'm going to get the impression here you're one of the leading money bags
yourself in the Republican Party [laughter]

BEVERLY No The records will show that I'm not [laughter]

SENEY You know some people are good at raising money though aren't they? I
mean they know how to approach people and they have contacts

BEVERLY I've never liked that

SENEY You know everyone says that and I can't imagine it's a pleasure is it to
put in a call to someone You know if you were calling me to raise
money for Deukmejian or Flournoy what kind of an approach do you
take? How do you do that?

BEVERLY Well I guess it would depend who it is and what my friendship was and
whether he was a long time activist and loyal Republican I'd try to sell
you on the details of how we were going to win get on board support for
a particular issue If you're a teacher education If you're a gun nut
whatever There are various avenues you take The most effective
fund raisers are the people who have money themselves I think

SENEY That s interesting

BEVERLY You get a Henry Salvatore calling you and you re some CEO [Chief Executive Officer] in some company it s going to mean more

[Begin Tape 5 Side B]

SENEY You were saying that among the most effective fund raisers are people who have money themselves Would you ever say contact someone of means to say Would you mind giving a call to this other individual because I think you might have a little better luck than I would with them ?

BEVERLY I probably did that on occasion I can t think of a specific I had contact with some of the big fund raisers and Reagan people who lived down in this district and there were a number of them in Rolling Hills and Palos Verdes As I say I m trying to think of the oh who was the gentleman? It doesn t come to me I can t think offhand Well there were some anyway

SENEY People who you would do that with you mean call and ask them to call someone else?

BEVERLY Yeah Or I d call them on behalf of my candidate seeking money

SENEY Was it very difficult to raise funds? I mean unpleasant perhaps but was it

difficult?

BEVERLY Well I was always able to raise what I needed for my own candidacy with very little effort It almost rolled in without having any affairs or asking I think there was a ten year period where I didn't have a fund raiser I remember putting out a letter in which I pointed out I had not had a fund raiser in ten years Some lobbyist sent me a check He said I'll sign up for the next fund raiser ten years from now Call on me again

SENEY Because they do get a lot inquiries don't they in terms of raising money

BEVERLY There are some people who are constantly raising money and whining Tim Leslie's an example by the way

SENEY Oh is he?

BEVERLY Spent half his time raising money

SENEY You know he's an interesting individual in terms of his career My understanding is that pretty much his whole adult life has been spent one way or another in the Legislature

BEVERLY I think he was a staffer and then a lobbyist

SENEY Yeah intern staffer lobbyist and then a member And that's not an unusual path on both sides really of the aisle is it anymore I mean maybe that's slowed down a bit

BEVERLY Particularly a staffer I don't know how many have been lobbyists Some

though

SENEY He lobbied for the Association of Counties I think?

BEVERLY Yeah right

SENEY So he's a dependable fund raiser Did he call you for campaign contributions?

BEVERLY I'm sure he did when he first ran for the Senate

SENEY Yes you mentioned that you did contribute to his campaign on Mr Maddy's urging

BEVERLY It was mostly Maddy's effort

SENEY I know again from interviewing Mr Merksamer that when the Deukmejian administration began they set up committees to help make selections and so forth Some were from the business community members of these committees some were from the political community Did you take part in that?

BEVERLY No There was a gentleman from Palos Verdes who was the head of that He had previously been or later became dean at Loyola Law School for a while His name is what? He once even ran for Congress I can't think of his name but he headed the group recruiting for the Deukmejian administration

SENEY I meant to ask you about Mr [Tom] Bradley's campaign against

Deukmejian in '82 That was a very close election

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did you think Deukmejian was going to win or were you surprised at the victory?

BEVERLY About three or four weeks before the election I was convinced Duke had a chance The polling looked good In fact two unnamed senators and I bet \$1 500 on Duke and we'd won already on a little wager we made in the primary in his race against Curb and we felt pretty good So things were looking good

SENEY You mean the three of you put together \$1 500 and bet some other senators on this?

BEVERLY Right Other senators or a political campaign type I've forgotten Maybe both

SENEY Is that uncommon for people on this sort of friendly basis I'm sure to get together and wager on these elections? Was this the first time you'd done that the only time you'd done that? Well you said you did it in the primary

BEVERLY Yeah Oh I made modest wagers on races I remember in that primary I had a modest wager with Ed Davis He endorsed Curb and I couldn't understand that and we had a small bet But I lost some too

- SENEY You know as long as you bring up former Chief Davis I understand he was a popular and effective senator
- BEVERLY Mm hm Everybody thought he would be an extreme right wing type but he turned out to be quite a thoughtful and moderate guy
- SENEY I was going to say that that contrary to expectations he turned out to be someone that was kind of surprised and turned out to be an effective and would you say influential senator?
- BEVERLY Mm hm He strongly supported Maddy for example He was a good senator He had a tendency to make a long story out of a short one but other than that
- SENEY Did he tell them well?
- BEVERLY Oh yeah He talked too much on the floor I thought There are a number of people like that
- SENEY Yeah
- BEVERLY Which tends to somewhat blunt your effectiveness
- SENEY You know the race between Deukmejian and Bradley was about 50 000 votes apart I think and I've read analyses that credit the absentee ballot campaign that was put on by the Deukmejian people If you remember this was I think the first election in which absentee ballots were pretty much available Before that you had to have some kind of an excuse to get

one. Now of course you can just choose to vote by absentee ballot. The Republicans had Deukmejian's people at any rate had very skillfully targeted this absentee ballot as a means for gaining votes. Did you play any part in that?

BEVERLY: No. No. I don't think so. I don't remember that effort. My recollection of the absentee ballot is that real efforts were made to use it in some special elections at first and successfully. I don't remember the details of that.

SENEY: Was race a factor do you think in that election?

BEVERLY: Oh yeah. Was there a gun issue?

SENEY: Yes there was Prop 15³⁸ on the ballot right.

BEVERLY: Yeah that was significant. But race was an issue unfortunately. I had had a long rather close relationship with Tom Bradley. When I was president of the League of Cities Tom was a city councilman in Los Angeles and we persuaded him to assume the treasurer's chair which I think was the entry level historically into the L.A. division offices. You go from treasurer to V.P. to president. So we worked together on city matters and I carried some legislation worked with him over the years in Sacramento.

³⁸ Proposition 15 (November 2, 1982)

SENEY You liked him?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Respected him?

BEVERLY And his chief deputy or deputy mayor was a fellow who'd come from the League of Cities and we were close. But I supported Duke

SENEY Sure. Well, the initiative you mentioned was Proposition 13. If I remember correctly, and there was a good deal of feeling that that brought out people who were -- to use your phrase earlier -- gun nuts, and that they were likely maybe people who would see race as a larger issue maybe than some others would.

BEVERLY Mm hm. I think that's so.

SENEY What was your impression of the Deukmejian administration? Now, he inherited a budget deficit from Jerry Brown, so right away he's kind of behind the eight ball on that. Do you recall that? Because you would have been on the Finance Committee at that time.

BEVERLY I'm a little vague on that.

SENEY It wasn't very big by today's standards.

BEVERLY No, because there came a point in the administration where we gave money back to the taxpayers.

SENEY Right. That was '87. I think

BEVERLY Whether that was wise or not is questionable because there was so little involved but it was a mark an indication of his philosophy So I supported it and voted for it I don't remember the shortage I can't remember the details of that

SENEY I remember he liked to say "We went from IOU to A OK "

BEVERLY That's right

SENEY Referring to this deficit that Jerry Brown had foisted on him Apparently there had been some sort of creative accounting Brown had used to mask this because he was running for the Senate in '82 and didn't want that in the mix He lost to Pete Wilson but he didn't want people to know that there were these budgetary troubles and so Deukmejian arrives to find all these headaches on his desk

BEVERLY Yeah as you recite that I recall it but I can't recall it in any detail Let's see that was '82 I don't know what I was doing Finance wise at the time But it was nowhere near the serious problem that Pete Wilson faced

SENEY Right Well Deukmejian rolled that debt over into the next year That had never been done before and there was some question as to whether or not it should be done but the economy picked up and that took care of the matter He turned out to be right on that one I think obviously a lot of Democrats were hoping he was going to stumble on that

What's your overall evaluation of the Deukmejian years from this perspective?

BEVERLY Well Duke's major contribution was in his judicial appointments and his interest in criminal law. He was more or less a holding pattern candidate on other issues. He concentrated on the judiciary and criminal law prison system that sort of thing. So I don't know. I respected him and I respected his honesty and integrity very strong in that regard but a little hard to get him to commit on issues. He didn't like to take a front position. I carried a controversial measure involving corporate securities that elevated certain NASDAQ securities to a level where they would be similar to the AMEX or the New York Stock Exchange where you need less approvals in the state if they were a certain category of stocks on the NASDAQ board and the Corporations commissioner opposed it. The business community generally supported it. I had an awful time persuading him to sign it but he finally did. It was a big bill. He listened on that occasion notwithstanding his commissioner's opposition and he supported it.

SENEY What were the origins of that bill? Who came to you with that idea? I take it that's how it would work in a case like this.

BEVERLY Yeah I'd been involved years before in the Assembly with a measure that

[Assemblyman John T] Jack Knox Assemblyman Knox from Richmond carried to gain the same sort of approval for the AMEX exchange³⁹ I served on a committee I was appointed to review that and we went back to the stock exchanges and met with the New York exchange and the AMEX people So I d been active in that and I guess I chaired the committee It was a several year fight Well we got the approval and it worked no problems so it was a logical step to move to the NASDAQ area and I think Jack Knox by then was out of the Legislature and practicing law and I think Knox came to me with the proposal He had been retained by the NASDAQ people Then later all kinds of lobbyists and people got involved It was rather a big issue

SENEY Was there much opposition to it? Would AMEX and the New York Stock Exchange be opposed? These are so called over the counter stocks you re raising the level of

BEVERLY Yeah they did oppose it I forget whether they finally went neutral They opposed it initially I know that

SENEY You mentioned yesterday when I asked you about your income outside the Legislature that real estate investment was one of the areas Do you

³⁹ A B 1122 1971 1972 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 1008 (1971)

invest in the stock market as well? Are you familiar with all these things from an investor's point of view too?

BEVERLY Not really I have a few stocks probably one or two I've purchased myself and three or four and that's all I have half a dozen stocks three or four I inherited from my step father one of which has done very well Lockheed Martin

SENEY Have you had that a long time?

BEVERLY Yeah Since his death which was about what 15 years ago something like that Not great sums

SENEY Well it's better if it goes up than down

BEVERLY Oh indeed

SENEY Well that one's probably split and so forth Has it?

BEVERLY Split once Probably due to split again

SENEY Right You know I mentioned about the Jerry Brown administration was that there were a lot of changes going on in the state the demographic changes and those were really accelerated in the 80s We had a lot more immigration coming into the state and the whole complexion if you will of the state changes and there are some people who think maybe Deukmejian as was kind of a caretaker governor and he didn't really respond to those I don't know what one would do frankly but he didn't

seem to grasp that the seeds of the future were definitely being sown during this period. Would you agree with that characterization?

BEVERLY Yeah. I think that'd be reasonably accurate. Maybe none of us did. I certainly never envisioned a day when the Caucasian would be in the minority or the WASP [white anglo saxon Protestant] or whatever he is.

SENEY Right. Is that true now in Los Angeles County?

BEVERLY It's either true or on the edge of becoming so.

SENEY It's true in the school system, isn't it?

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY I mean, when you look at the school population, the WASP or Caucasian children are the minority now.

BEVERLY Right.

SENEY As long as we're on that subject, what do you make of all these changes? Since you arrived here in 1946, California has changed a good deal.

BEVERLY Mm hm. Well, I don't know how to say it or what I think. I probably wouldn't have established a home and base in Los Angeles County if I had seen the growth and the congestion. The ratio makeup doesn't bother me more than the other, but I would have been looking toward Oregon or someplace I suppose, or if in California I would have been someplace else.

in California. Probably if I was settling again I would settle in San Diego. When I was in the Marine Corps it was a military town and I wanted to get out of it. But it's since become a great and important city with lots of attributes it didn't have before. But what the future holds there I'm not sure. It's growing too. But to repeat your statement a moment ago I'm not sure what to do about it.

SENEY: Driving here to meet with you from Orange County about an hour or so away when I asked you how far is it and you told me in terms of time rather than miles which is what people say here. It isn't it's 30 miles away because that doesn't matter. What matters is how much time it takes. But where you live here it's a lovely community. It's kind of like an enclave really. Do you find it so?

BEVERLY: Yeah. I hesitate to go east of Hawthorn Boulevard or north of Wilshire just to avoid traffic and my law office is downtown my law firm and I detest going down. The time was when you could go down during certain hours and not meet the congestion. No more no matter what time of day you go. It drives me up the wall.

SENEY: Is it necessary for you to go very often to your law office?

BEVERLY: No. I've been very inactive.

SENEY: One of the things that I wanted to ask you about that occurred during the

Deukmejian administration was the death of Jesse Unruh who was the state treasurer and he had taken the state treasurer's office and made a kind of mountain out of a molehill really. It was now an office which people wanted and you were in the running for appointment for that office according to the press.

BEVERLY Well according to the press and I indicated I was available if they wanted to make the appointment. I never campaigned for it. I think I wrote the governor to that effect that I was available and would take it but for various reasons he didn't see fit to appoint me.

SENEY Well that's kind of necessary isn't it when something like that comes open. If you want to be seriously considered you really have to write him a letter saying I want to be seriously considered for the position. Is that a long letter? Is that a 'here's why I should be considered' or is it just a couple of lines saying 'Sorry about Jesse'?

BEVERLY Nearer the latter a short letter.

SENEY I mean he clearly knows you and what your qualifications are going to be. What did you make of his appointment of Dan Lungren?

BEVERLY Well I had great respect for Lungren as an effective bright hardworking congressman from Long Beach and his family had been around in Republican politics. His father had been personal physician to Nixon. So

I was all for it and I tried to help him in the Legislature I appeared before the committee on his behalf and lobbied other legislators but he was rejected as you know

SENEY Right He was approved in the Assembly side and rejected on the Senate side in a close vote

BEVERLY I guess that's the way it was

SENEY One of the reasons the press says it was decisive is that he had voted against the bill for the compensation of the Japanese internees when he was a member of the House of Representatives Do you remember that as a critical matter?

BEVERLY No

SENEY You know there's a lot of press at the time about the fact that [Senator] Quentin Kopp who was an Independent from San Francisco had apparently promised his vote to Lungren or people representing Lungren Did you lobby Senator Kopp on this?

BEVERLY No I think he was lobbied by the governor's office I think he committed to the governor's office

SENEY And when the vote actually came up Senator Kopp voted no

BEVERLY That's right

SENEY Senator Boatwright voted yes

BEVERLY I don't remember that

SENEY And Senator Boatwright and I think I've got this right was chairman of the Transportation Committee in the Senate

BEVERLY I don't think that's right

SENEY Do I have it wrong?

BEVERLY I think Wadie Deddeh was chairman

SENEY Because as a result some people say of his vote Mr Kopp becomes Transportation chairman⁴⁰

BEVERLY I think that's true in part I'll never know but it fits The scenario seemed appropriate But I think that was Deddeh who was replaced Boatwright was dumped at some point by Roberti because Roberti thought he was involved in a coup to unseat Roberti

SENEY Yeah you mentioned that yesterday He forthwith took care of him

BEVERLY Yeah That can be checked but I think it was Deddeh

SENEY Well I know there was speculation in the press that the appointment of Kopp had a what was based on this vote when he was asked and Roberti was 'Oh of course it had nothing to do with it But from your viewpoint that maybe fits

⁴⁰ Senator Kopp succeeded Senator Deddeh as chairman of the Transportation Committee on March 24 1988

- BEVERLY The big thing on Lungren was he was viewed as a dangerous statewide candidate and he turned out to be
- SENEY The Democrats were right
- BEVERLY Maybe the next governor
- SENEY You know a lot of the Democrats thought that Jesse Unruh was Democrat you know that was an office that had been won by a Democrat and that in fairness the governor ought to have put a Democrat in there Did you find that at all persuasive?
- BEVERLY Not really I wouldn't expect a Republican governor to appoint a Democrat to the post
- SENEY Were you surprised that Jesse Unruh had been able to make so much out of that office?
- BEVERLY No because I knew Jesse's capabilities abilities and how hard he worked
- SENEY He was really quite gifted at those kinds of things wasn't he?
- BEVERLY He really was He built the Legislature into what seemed to be the model at the time model full time legislator with adequate staff and facilities Maybe we over did it since then
- SENEY How do you mean?
- BEVERLY Too much staff too long of sessions too many bills without any significant improvement in the product

- SENEY Staff is something that you'd come to rely on quite heavily. I would think
- BEVERLY Oh, yeah.
- SENEY And you see problems with that?
- BEVERLY Well, I've always operated with less staff than most of my colleagues. Maybe my Yankee background, like Jerry Brown. Jerry used to call himself "cheap, not frugal," and I think I'm basically frugal. But I found that too much staff results in make-work, dreaming up projects and silly-ass ideas that just waste a lot of time and money. I think there's a level that's wise and good and we probably exceeded it.
- SENEY You know, I know if a constituent tries to reach some members, it's very difficult to penetrate beyond the staff level unless you're someone really important in the district. What were your sort of guidelines to your staff and so forth about which calls should be put into you and what should be handled by someone else?
- BEVERLY Well, I pretty much had an open door. If people wanted to see me or talk to me, I'd talk to them. A lot of the activists, third house and so forth, know when they can deal with staff or which staff and when they want to contact the member himself. So I had no problem with that, their priorities, local officials, constituents, so forth.
- SENEY You know, one of the things I wanted to ask you about was during the

Deukmejian period was a veto by Deukmejian of a school funding bill of yours for districts in this area⁴¹ There were five South Bay school districts that had declining enrollments and you had put in legislation to ameliorate this problem of when the enrollment declines the state support also declines and Ed King of the and this is from the L A Times on October 7 1988⁴² Ed King who was the business manager for the South Bay Union High School District you probably know him do you? Or would you deal with someone maybe a little higher?

BEVERLY I probably dealt with him

SENEY He said We were counting dearly on that money and the governor's veto hurt us very badly King said that State Senator Robert Beverly carried the bill and went all out for it ⁴³ Do you remember that particular piece of legislation?

BEVERLY Oh vaguely I carried several education finance measures aimed at helping my district and helping L A L A was not a beneficiary of this This was a smaller district

SENEY These were the smaller districts These were the five South Bay school

⁴¹ S B 2084 1987 1988 Reg Sess (1988)

⁴² Part 2 page 7

⁴³ ibid

districts L A school district did you have part of that in your district?

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY So these I take it were ones that were solely within your district these South Bay ones How would this come to your attention? Would they give you a call or their lobbyist would give you a call and come and ask

BEVERLY They or the local board members or the administration or their lobbyist if they had one

SENEY Did Deukmejian veto many of your bills?

BEVERLY Not many I d forgotten this

[Begin Tape 6 Side A]

SENEY I wanted to ask you about you were saying that Deukmejian didn t veto too many of your bills We talked about vetoes earlier today and yesterday the fact that Deukmejian didn t have anything overridden any veto did he?

BEVERLY I don t think so

SENEY And Wilson today has not had any vetoes overridden

BEVERLY Right

SENEY I have been told and maybe you can clear this up for me that when Deukmejian became governor that the Republicans in the Legislature

essentially said we won't vote to override any vetoes

BEVERLY I don't remember any commitment or pledge to that effect

SENEY Maybe you voted to override this veto did you or have you voted to override any?

BEVERLY I probably never raised this one But I voted to override Jerry Brown a number of times I don't know whether I ever voted to override Duke Probably not And I never voted to override Reagan

SENEY My impression is that the Republicans are more cohesive than the Democrats on matters of this kind That this kind of an agreement or commitment or understanding would not be unusual for the Republicans

BEVERLY That's right particularly when you're in the minority

SENEY Right exactly I mean that's the way you increase your power is by making sure that everyone sticks together Steve Merksamer said to me that when they would have these override votes say like a bill like this which is an important district bill for you they would say Go ahead vote to override it we know we've got enough votes to sustain the veto without your help on this one and that those kind of accommodations would be made to individual members on veto overrides But you don't recall that happening in your case

BEVERLY No I don't

- SENEY And we did mention the fact that Deukmejian returned money a budget surplus in 1987 and that you voted in favor of that Did you have pressure from your school districts here about that vote?
- BEVERLY I don't remember any significant pressure
- SENEY It wouldn't surprise me if they were on the phone saying Gee Senator we could sure use that
- BEVERLY I don't think so
- SENEY Did it turn out to be a wise decision do you think in the long run to do that?
- BEVERLY Oh from a political standpoint it was probably a plus but no great plus From a fiscal standpoint it was unwise We had places and needs for the money
- SENEY Although there were some questions under the Gann Limit whether or not you really had to do that
- BEVERLY Well yeah
- SENEY Although that could have been finessed if you'd wanted to
- BEVERLY There's usually a way of doing that in every financial problem
- SENEY In the 1990 election when Mr Wilson was elected did you take part in that?
- BEVERLY Oh yeah I supported Pete from the beginning I get his campaigns mixed

up I know I made appearances for him at rallies and fund raisers when he ran for U S Senate for reelection and I guess for governor as well

SENEY Well that would have been in reelection for '88 wouldn't it?

BEVERLY Yeah It was '88?

SENEY He beat Brown in '82 so that would have I think been the '88 reelection to the Senate

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Do you know anything about his decision to or the dynamics of him running for governor in 1990 so quickly on the heels of his Senate election?

BEVERLY Well the party leadership wanted to win the seat to keep the governorship with the view to the important reapportionment issue that was coming up That was the main incentive to urge Pete to run And he was viewed as the strongest candidate the strongest Republican candidate

SENEY There were some other people who made noises about running One of them was Peter Ueberroth who had gained some notoriety for the success of the '84 Olympics Do you know him by the way? Have you come in contact with him?

BEVERLY Yeah Not well I met him during the Olympics and Ken Maddy at one

time belonged to Vintage Country Club down in the desert the Palm Springs area and he got to be pretty friendly with Ueberroth so I got acquainted in that respect At one point we were strongly interested in seeing Peter as a candidate In surveys he looked awfully strong awfully strong and he had some interest but never enough to throw his hat in the ring

SENEY And Darrell Gates was apparently mentioned and mentioned himself maybe for governorship on the Republican side that year

BEVERLY That vaguely rings a bell but I don't think that was ever taken seriously

SENEY Do you know him at all?

BEVERLY No Well I've met him but I don't know him

SENEY He's not somebody you'd come in contact with

BEVERLY No

SENEY You know I was saying before about the ability of the Republican Party to sort of centralize its efforts and its fund raising especially But this happened in that 1990 election that the clear choice of the Republican leaders as you put it was for Pete Wilson to run He looked the most viable won two statewide elections convincingly won just two years before and that they didn't really want anyone else in the primary to muddy the waters up Is that your understanding of what went on?

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY And if we could just jump back to '82 I understand Mr [U S Senator S I] Hayakawa wanted to continue to be in the Senate and that he was kind of told that there's no money for you we're going with Wilson

BEVERLY I was not involved in that I don't remember that Was Hayakawa there in '82?

SENEY Yeah he was the incumbent senator Remember Sleeping Sam

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Brown apparently thought he would have had a good shot against him and was hoping to run against him But Wilson is a formidable candidate I mean there's just no question about that He's proven that over and over again And again you worked on his campaign and made appearances and maybe raised funds again?

BEVERLY Probably modest amounts of money

SENEY And he inherited from Deukmejian budget difficulties

BEVERLY Significant We knew going in right after the election there were problems but they turned out to be multiplied many fold from what we had anticipated

SENEY Almost week after week in '91 as the budget is being prepared and even the budget that was in place had to be modified didn't it? Because at this

point the state is gripped by a recession Did you meet with Wilson's people at all on that? Because you would have been on Appropriations and I think vice chair even of Appropriations at that point

BEVERLY Yeah but that was a Budget Committee item Maddy did most of the representation of the caucus on that A number of us a minority of the Republicans ultimately supported the increased tax package which turned out to be a tremendous negative in my campaign for reelection In the surveys we did the two things that hurt me and made the race difficult were having rolled over that \$7 billion in tax increases and long time incumbency Term limits had been embraced

SENEY Right Those passed in 1990 ⁴⁴

BEVERLY With Wilson's election to governor and he supported it

SENEY What has been your impression of the Wilson administration and Wilson as governor?

BEVERLY Well how would I assess it? It hasn't been as effective as I had hoped it would be partly because of the fiscal problems we have had until recently In terms of his appointments probably in general I have not been as impressed with him as I thought I might be but less than expected I

⁴⁴ Proposition 140 (November 1990)

guess

SENEY As you know I've interviewed a couple of your Democratic colleagues recently Senator Alquist and Senator Marks Senator Alquist was chairman of Budget and Review and Senator Marks was chairman of the Reapportionment and Elections Committee and of course there may be a partisan factor here I certainly wouldn't rule that out but both of them were quite critical of the governor in terms of his attitude toward the Legislature and his seeming unwillingness to meet with at least people at the committee chair level to discuss matters and problems Would you have any trouble getting in to see him if you wanted to?

BEVERLY Pete? No no No troubles at all We go way back We served in the Assembly together

SENEY What would be your general view of how he works with the Legislature?

BEVERLY I had not been aware that there were complaints that people couldn't get to him or couldn't meet with him committee chairmen that sort of thing That surprised me a little bit His chief of staff Bob White was I thought easy to see and got along and had been around a long time and knew the ropes But I was not involved directly in budget negotiations and that sort of thing

SENEY Well I think Senator Marks particularly tried to see the governor about the

reapportionment matters and the governor

BEVERLY Well Marks is in a different category

SENEY How do you mean?

BEVERLY Well he was a Republican who very seldom supported Republican issues and he also represented a 19 percent Republican district in San Francisco so he couldn't be expected to be a soldier. But he went out of his way to be critical of the governor and the administration. I thought and he became a turncoat. Changed parties the Democrats made him caucus chairman which was absurd. I don't know where this is going but Milton was a bumbler. He was not a good legislator. And he was a pretty good friend. We were elected in special elections in the same year in 1967 and I walked precincts for him and contributed money to his campaign so I was damn unhappy when he left the party. I would have said good riddance. So what he says is

SENEY Okay I understand

BEVERLY Consider the source

SENEY Well I think that's a useful perspective on his critique. In fact your face has changed as you're talking about him and you look a little annoyed. The tape won't see that so I mention that because we're not videotaping you. So I mean still after all this remove you're annoyed that he switched

parties and was critical of the governor. Would you think that your reaction to my question here and comments would be typical of other Republicans that they'd feel the same way?

BEVERLY Yes. I'll give you the topper. After my retirement December 1, 1996 Milton called me and wanted an appointment from the governor and he said did I think the governor would appoint him to a post and I said Of course not. Not a chance. What the hell have you ever done to deserve an appointment from Pete Wilson? That was the last time I talked to him.

SENEY And you regard his appointment as caucus chair immediately by the Democrats as a bit much perhaps?

BEVERLY Oh it was absurd. Just part of the bargain they made for him to change parties. They gave him staff but he was not really an active caucus chairman. David ran everything out of his office. David Roberti.

SENEY You know I know this moves forward a little bit since you've left office but in this last budget cycle it looked as though there was going to be extra money for what people you know more for education and everybody had their palms out. I'm sure and their hopes up. There was a billion plus amount of money available. The kicker was the supreme court had ruled that the state had to replace almost exactly the amount that was in surplus to the Public Employees Retirement System [PERS]. I guess PERS

would have negotiated that out with the governor over a period of time wanting something in exchange for that and the governor decided to pay it off in the surplus I know you've kept up with things What was your reaction to all of that?

BEVERLY Well I would have preferred that the debt not be paid at that time that it would be spaced over a period of time with the hope that more money would go to local government Education was treated pretty well

SENEY In the budget as it stood

BEVERLY Yes And with Prop 98⁴⁵ what have you they get a lion's share anyway So I was disappointed in the action Also amused by it somewhat because it cut off some of these rinky dink hometown projects

SENEY What are you thinking of when you say hometown projects ?

BEVERLY Oh for local parks and improvements

SENEY A swimming pool here and a baseball diamond there that sort of thing?

BEVERLY Yeah Most of them were cut anyway for the most part

SENEY Do you think the governor was justified in what he did?

BEVERLY Well I don't know all the ins and outs of what went on but I suppose the conservative Republicans were pleased and from that standpoint it's

⁴⁵ (November 1988)

probably good for Pete that he made the communication with them

Though I wouldn't have done it

SENEY Is he going to run for president again do you think?

BEVERLY I think he wants to Whether he will or not I don't know

SENEY And this would play in to that ambition or interest wouldn't it?

BEVERLY Well it wouldn't hurt him

SENEY Right To kind of cement his relations with the conservative wing of the party

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Well it did come off looking as though he'd snookered the Democrats on this You're nodding your head yes

BEVERLY Well from that standpoint it was rather clever That's why I find it amusing There's a certain gamesmanship that I admire or appreciate

SENEY You know let me give you a brief analysis and see if you'd agree maybe in terms of what you've said and that is that the governor has played hardball with the Legislature pretty much and that this is another inning of hardball and that that gamesmanship is maybe what you might call it increases his influence because it gives him a reputation for toughness that the Legislature has to which is in Democratic hands both houses take into consideration in its dealings with him So that kind of an action

would increase his influence. Would you agree with that?

BEVERLY That's true. It's a reminder that he's got the power.

SENEY Well, let me ask you about Wilson's '94 campaign. Were you surprised that he was able to pull that out so well against Kathleen Brown? I mean she looked like a sure winner to begin with. What would be your evaluation of that campaign?

BEVERLY Well, I'm not surprised he won ultimately. I was surprised at the margin because Kathleen looked like a pretty good candidate until the end. I guess in the overall picture they ran a good campaign and she did not

SENEY One of the key elements that's generally looked at in terms of his victory was Proposition 187⁴⁶ which is generally regarded as a kind of anti-immigration initiative that and in the last election Proposition 209⁴⁷ which is looked upon as an anti-affirmative action initiative. What do you make of those two initiatives on the ballot passing not by all that large a margin but convincingly enough in a state that has, as we mentioned earlier, become much more multi-racial and multi-ethnic? What do you think's going on there?

⁴⁶ November 1994

⁴⁷ November 1996

- BEVERLY Well I think they're reflected among the voting population That's the general feeling that the propositions are in tune with what the views of the people are That may not be the total population of California but certainly among the voting population and probably a little broader than that Labor opposed both of those but I'm not sure which labor it was When I talked to the longshoremen down in the harbor they agreed with the propositions
- SENEY Do you think they probably voted for them no matter what their leadership might have said?
- BEVERLY I think so And San Pedro and the harbor are strong labor areas People still observe picket lines pretty much down there and that sort of thing But hell the longshoreman has got a guaranteed annual wage now He probably votes Republican and has the *Daily Breeze* on his doorstep
- SENEY Do these two propositions worry you at all in terms of maybe the social peace in the state? I know you have as you said ten grandchildren and I take it all of them are here in California?
- BEVERLY Mm hm
- SENEY What does this mean for the kind of California they're going to come of age in?
- BEVERLY Well I think everybody recognizes that the goals of the two propositions

are right and reasonable and I don't think it's going to lead to any great unrest

SENEY You don't think that the minorities or immigrants are going to regard these as some sort of attack on them

BEVERLY Yeah I don't think so I probably won't be around long enough to see what happens but I tend to be an optimist

SENEY Okay I want to go back and ask you about your campaigns We've talked a little about some of them all the way up but I want you to comment on them and in a couple of ways especially One is how money has changed as a factor You mentioned in 1967 I think you said you spent \$20,000 on your campaign

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY I know in your last Senate campaign in 1992 at least the press figures were nearly \$400,000 that you spent

BEVERLY That much?

SENEY That much By the way that is not a lot of money in terms of a Senate campaign

BEVERLY No I didn't think it was that much

SENEY Some of your people spent more than that. The *L A Times*⁴⁸ article indicated that you had spent in the neighborhood of \$400,000 in your campaign.

BEVERLY That includes contributions to other candidates too.

SENEY Oh, I see. That would include money you had given to other people as well.

BEVERLY Yes.

SENEY The kind of thing we talked about yesterday.

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY You know, if you look at and you've been in a number of campaigns. Sixty-seven you ran. You had to run again in '68 right away. Seventy-two, '74. Then you're elected to the Senate in '76 and then a little less frequently, '80, '84, '88 and '92. So you've been in what is that? That's ten campaigns for the State Legislature to say nothing of your local ones for local office here. If you look broadly at that sweep of campaigning and those number of years and we're talking about 30 years in the State Legislature, how has campaigning changed?

BEVERLY Well, initially it's become more expensive. When we talked yesterday

⁴⁸ October 18, 1992, Part J, Page 1

postage was a nickel when I ran First Class postage now is 32 cents
 There's less volunteer activity I'm not aware that there's any place that
 has the old precinct organization we used to have I first worked in the
 district in the Westchester area near the airport We literally had a
 campaign worker in every precinct who kept a card file on who lives there
 at least the Republicans There's no more of that There's very little
 volunteer Republican club activity that I see The Young Republicans
 come and go mostly socialize

SENEY And that's a group you could in times past rely on to come out and put up
 signs for you and that sort of thing

BEVERLY Right There's some sizable women Republican organizations on paper
 but I don't see the precinct activities the election day victory squad
 activities Campaigning is all by mail Other parts of the state television
 and radio We don't use it much down here at least for legislative and
 congressional races it's too expensive

SENEY And if you bought time on an L A station you'd be reaching what only
 one out of the ten people seeing it maybe would be in your district?

BEVERLY Right if that much So it's computers and mail which are very
 expensive select mailings to many different groups We didn't used to
 have that It's much more sophisticated than it was

SENEY Let me turn this over Senator

[Begin Tape 6 Side B]

SENEY We were talking about how from '67 to '92 the ten campaigns that you've been involved in how things have changed over the years the computerization and so forth

BEVERLY Well as I say the campaigns have become more sophisticated The immense role of volunteers and political club activity precinct work and so forth is no longer with us We use mail and computers targeted mailings and so forth They've become much more expensive I mentioned that postage was a nickel in '67 First Class postage now it's 32 cents I think that covers the main changes of the picture

SENEY After your defeat in the '66 primary that you brought in professional help

BEVERLY That's right I learned from that campaign that it was wise to have an experienced political consultant and I brought one in in all of my campaigns

SENEY The last one you used for the last number of years was Alan Hoffenblum
You said you also used Don Smith?

BEVERLY Ron Smith from San Francisco He's run statewide campaigns in races up north and he had run Dean Dana's campaign for the board of supervisors

- SENEY Is that how you got to know him through that campaign?
- BEVERLY I think I probably met him before that in Republican circles and Central Committee meetings and so forth I think he had run Milton Marks' campaign
- SENEY These consultants work one side of the aisle or the other do they not? There'll be a Republican or a Democratic consultant?
- BEVERLY Generally
- SENEY There's not much spill over or that's unusual for them to work someone else's campaign
- BEVERLY That's true
- SENEY In the 1967 election you used Mr [Bob] McGee?
- BEVERLY Mm hm
- SENEY His first name is ?
- BEVERLY Bob McGee had run [Congressman Robert B] Bob Mathias campaign for Congress up in the Central Valley and Ed Reineke's campaign for Congress in wherever his district was And he was recommended by the governor's office They had given me several names when I was running in '67 and I hired McGee
- SENEY You mentioned yesterday that they supported you in that '67 election the governor's office did

BEVERLY After the primary

SENEY Right And again they were the ones who recommended McGee to you

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY I think also again we mentioned this yesterday the amount of funds that your first campaign cost about \$20 000 and the last one about \$400 000 Although you say part of that figure would have included contributions you made to other people s campaigns

BEVERLY I m pretty sure that s the case

SENEY Right And then I was getting to talking about the 1992 campaign You know one of the things that we should talk about is your support for labor and how you gained the support of labor

BEVERLY Partly because I sought it I had the assistance of my law partner Richard Richards who d been a former state senator from Los Angeles County and had excellent contacts with labor He was a Democrat I kept up relations with organized labor particularly in the harbor area the longshoremen s union teamsters I also enjoyed the support of the unions to which lots of aerospace employees belong I forget the name of it but that s significant down here I had the support of the airline pilots for example and the teachers I had been a pretty good education vote so I sought their support I enjoyed that support over the years

- SENEY They didn't expect you to be able to vote their way a hundred percent of the time because
- BEVERLY Because I was a Republican in a Republican district but I gave some important votes I remember casting a key vote for workers compensation benefit increases and most of the Republicans went the other way
- SENEY And then if we could talk about the '92 campaign because again that's the one that the opposition comes closest to you Previous to that you had gotten right around 66 or 67 percent in your earlier elections and in this one you're running against Mr. [Brian] Finander The two of you were pretty much in agreement over the issues and the one I wanted to raise with you was the question of abortion because there he is life long pro choice and supports abortion rights and opposes any government restrictions to those at all and you support abortion rights but you do favor requiring parental consent for teenagers And then the 24 hour waiting period you said that you wouldn't be opposed to that either
- BEVERLY No I don't remember taking a position on that maybe I did That's a very limited restriction that doesn't do much I could support that sure
- SENEY And you said you voted against the initial Beilenson bill in 1968 and changed your views
- BEVERLY My basic views on abortion changed I don't know what caused it I was

younger then Our second child was born under difficult circumstances placenta previa I think they call it either that birth or the next one I've forgotten and there might have been a medical recommendation for an abortion in that case and we didn't have it I've thought back over the years that if abortion at that time were legal and readily available we might well have had one and I wouldn't have enjoyed that third son or our second I'm not sure which one it was now But I mellowed over the years and really was influenced by friends and constituents that a woman had the right to control her body

SENEY Is this something your district would probably approve of by a fair margin?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Now one of the things too that makes this election in '92 a little more problematic is the reapportionment has put you in a district which is now 47 percent Democratic and 41 percent Republican and those were the worst numbers you faced in any of these elections in terms of registration isn't it?

BEVERLY I think so

SENEY And even your home here in Manhattan Beach is no longer a part of the district

BEVERLY Right

SENEY You got a little flack over being a carpetbagger from Finander

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did that hurt do you think?

BEVERLY Well it was a factor I'm sure it didn't help and it probably was a negative it hurt. Additionally our surveys showed that my having voted for the \$7 billion tax increases was a big negative and long time incumbency was a negative. I remember we asked a question on a questionnaire Assuming the following candidates were running John Jones two years on the school board Beverly 26 year incumbent ex councilman third year something like that and they were overwhelmingly against the 26 year incumbent. Now then if you went on with the questions we said the 26 year incumbent has been a minority leader carried the bill Rob a Home Go To Prison ⁴⁹ and a few other things then it turned around. But that's a selling job. You've got to send out a hell of a lot of mail to get that out.

SENEY And that's what you were trying to assess what issues would help to overcome the anti incumbent sentiment

⁴⁹ S B 709 1977 1978 Reg Sess Cal State Ch 579 (1978)

Now if this number is right and this was again from the *Los Angeles Times* on the 22nd of November in '92⁵⁰ when the final votes were counted you only won by 5 054

BEVERLY That s right

SENEY After all these years here you know this is your last election just as a personal matter how did you feel about that

BEVERLY Well I was disappointed because Finander was not a good candidate in my opinion We had a lot of stuff on Finander we d done deep research on him He had spent part of the Vietnam War in Canada and a lot of stuff His job his profession whatever the hell he did was very shaky He was a mystery figure Had not been active in the community A little bit in the Jewish community but nothing beyond that I couldn t understand how the hell he did so well against me

SENEY Did you use any of that in the campaign?

BEVERLY No I directed that it not be used On election night I was sorry I had

SENEY Because you hadn t done that kind of campaigning before had you?

BEVERLY No I think in my first campaign or my campaign against Wedworth the first campaign with the Senate he had been voted least principled

⁵⁰ Part A page 3

something like that by the Sacramento Press Corps and we had used that

But over the years I've generally been a positive campaigner

SENEY So that old habit you couldn't toss aside in this case

BEVERLY No

SENEY Did you play any role in the '96 election for your district for who succeeded you?

BEVERLY No In the primary I remained neutral Assemblyman Phil Hawkins was running from Bellflower A strong candidate from Long Beach whose name I can't remember was backed by Deukmejian I guess there were one or two others also but those were the two principal candidates I advised Hawkins not to run He was only a one term assemblyman in a district we could very well lose and I said he should stay put as should [Assemblyman Steven T.] Steve Kuykendall the other assemblyman Kuykendall won reelection by a very thin margin Hawkins was defeated for the Senate and the Republican nominee lost the Assembly seat If my advice had been followed we probably would have won But until we selected a nominee I didn't endorse I endorsed Hawkins after the primary He lost the Senate seat The Senate seat was won by [Senator] Betty Karnette who had served one term in the Assembly and then been defeated by Kuykendall

SENEY So the upshot was the Republicans lost one Assembly seat and one Senate seat

BEVERLY Right And Karnette incidentally beat Finander

SENEY In the Democratic primary

BEVERLY Rather handily which pleased me no end

SENEY That should be the last of him don't you suppose?

BEVERLY Oh yeah He's faded away like dew on a hot summer day He's gone

SENEY What are your views about term limits? How do you feel about that?

BEVERLY I opposed it I still oppose it I suppose the jury's still out on it I think it leaves the power in the administration the bureaucracy and the legislative staff This session has been an example of a bumbling no action Legislature I think Now the public still strongly supports it Recent surveys still show big support for it

SENEY More than voted for it because it didn't pass by a large margin

BEVERLY It was close yeah

SENEY You know one of the things I wanted to ask you about we talked about Unruh and Moretti a little bit But you move into the Senate and [Assemblyman Leo T] McCarthy becomes the speaker and then Willie Brown is the speaker and I wondered if you'd comment on them from your perspective as a member of the other body and a long time member

of the Assembly as well

BEVERLY I was not in the Assembly when Willie became speaker I had gone to the Senate

SENEY Well you were when McCarthy was I should say There was a couple of years right

BEVERLY McCarthy was challenged by somebody

SENEY By [Howard] Berman at the end

BEVERLY Yeah but who was the other one?

SENEY Well Willie Brown challenged him

BEVERLY Yeah I guess it was Willie

SENEY Willie Brown was thought to be the heir apparent

BEVERLY I was minority leader We were trying to make the best deal possible From the Democrats I met with and negotiated with McCarthy a little bit and with Willie and we were prepared to go with McCarthy who promised us more in terms of assignments and what have you and then he put it together without the need for Republican support

SENEY But he came to you initially thinking he might need you

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY What did he promise you? Committee chairmanships more staff that kind of thing?

BEVERLY Basically Mostly chairmanships and a Republican voice in naming Republicans to committees Leo's win surprised me because Moretti had let it be known that he supported Willie Brown A couple of Moretti's lieutenants who were still in the Assembly Wadie Deddeh and Jack Fenton campaigned hard for Willie In fact they went a little bit overboard They were too heavy too hard in their campaigning threatening and so forth And McCarthy put it together and won He even picked up the Black supporters if I remember and he named [Assemblyman] Leon Ralph as chairman of Rules Committee Leo was very bright He was a bit of a cold fish He didn't socialize much around the Capitol he went home every night to San Francisco almost every night We never saw him at dinners Now Willie's something special A brilliant man hard worker a good campaigner excellent speaker but I mean orator and he knew how to run the place He knew how to take care of the needs and desires of the members Hell he stayed in what 15 years⁵¹ or something We were pretty good friends I supported him for mayor

SENEY Did you?

⁵¹ December 1 1981 June 5 1995

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY As a former mayor yourself what's your impression of him as mayor of San Francisco?

BEVERLY He's doing pretty well. He's been a little bit lucky. The economy's saved him. I don't know how he can run that city with some of the labor contracts they have. You could run it into the poor house but he's done well. He's got a style. We'll see.

SENEY Some people who are critical of him say that in all those years he was speaker he really spent most of his time staying speaker and didn't really as Unruh did and even McCarthy they sponsored legislation. They had kind of a program and Brown really didn't do that kind of thing.

BEVERLY That's true. That's accurate. He didn't carry much in the way of legislation himself at all. I guess he gave pretty much a free rein to his delegation in terms of their legislation but by his appointment power and the way he did it he was able to control the fate of much of the legislation. He was not against removing X from the committee and appointing Y on a moment's notice to be sure a bill was killed or passed. He could get pretty tough.

SENEY What was your take on the aftermath of the 1994 election when the Republicans had gotten a one vote majority in the Assembly and yet

Willie was able to snooker them on gaining the speakership?

BEVERLY Well that resulted because the one Republican [Assemblyman Paul V Horcher] from the Diamond Bar area of L A County voted for Willie. The assemblyman was later recalled. But he was a loner. What the devil was his name? He's now on Willie's staff in San Francisco or he got some post. But he was a loner and an odd ball. I'm not surprised he did what he did.

SENEY Well he complained he was not well treated by the Republican Caucus.

BEVERLY Yeah that's true. I guess because he was such a loner he departed from the caucus on many issues and I've forgotten precisely what they were. And Willie played that game where he made two Republicans speakers [Assemblywoman] Doris Allen and the young man from Fresno

SENEY [Assemblyman Brian] Setencich. Brian is his first name.

BEVERLY Yeah those were strange appointments. They were both insane to have taken them although I guess historically they'll go down as having been a speaker.

SENEY Well she's been recalled too.

BEVERLY The first woman. Yeah she was recalled too that's right. But for a Republican to have had 41 votes and the party not to gain the speakership was unforgivable.

SENEY It was embarrassing wasn't it in a way?

BEVERLY Sure A terrible screw up There should have been some insurance votes from Democrats he should have negotiated a few Always As Monagan had with 41 He'd go to some of the responsible moderate Democrats people like John Foran from San Francisco in those days and a few others and get their vote

SENEY Did they come to you at all for advice you having been a minority leader in the Assembly?

BEVERLY No

SENEY And that's not the kind of thing you can call them up and offer them some advice is it?

BEVERLY I wouldn't unless I was close to them and I wasn't that close to the Republicans and the Republican leaders at that time It's a good policy as a senator to stay out of leadership politics in the other house

SENEY Now there was a time we talked about Mike Curb a while ago but there was a time when Mike Curb got involved in leadership squabbles in the Assembly with [Assemblywoman] Carol Hallett and supporting her over Priolo Do you recall that?

BEVERLY No Priolo succeeded me

SENEY And she succeeded Priolo and Curb apparently had a hand in that

BEVERLY It has a ring to it of remembrance but I can't remember the details

SENEY Priolo had announced he was going to run for another office

BEVERLY He was talking about the U S Senate

SENEY Yes and that gave them a reason to do him in At that time that was commented on very negatively the idea that the lieutenant governor would involve himself in a leadership squabble

BEVERLY That was a mistake

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY The fellow from the Stanford area who is with Merksamer was Republican leader⁵² I can't remember his name I guess he came later but I have no information on the Curb involvement

SENEY Let me ask you a little bit about the reapportionment We talked about the 70 reapportionment but the 80 and 90 reapportionment The 1980 reapportionment was the one in which the Democrats controlled the process and the court was not involved

Were you treated all right? I take it you were The district was not altered much

BEVERLY It was altered some I think I picked up part of Long Beach but not

⁵² Assemblyman Robert W Naylor

markedly

SENEY Did they come to you and show you the maps and consult with you on that?

BEVERLY Yeah that was always the practice

SENEY Particularly in the Senate wasn't it?

BEVERLY Well I think the Assembly too

SENEY My general impression is that in these reapportionment matters is that the Senate has been a little more collegial

BEVERLY That's probably true but there was a map discussion that took place with the chairman of the Reapportionment and Elections Committee

SENEY Do you recall what they showed you and you said That's fine or did you ask for changes?

BEVERLY There were several proposals with different geographical treatment and I preferred one or two over others

SENEY Did you get what you wanted in that regard?

BEVERLY Not entirely

SENEY But you were happy

BEVERLY Pleased if not satisfied

SENEY It moved your district a little bit south didn't it?

BEVERLY Yeah

- SENEY And didn't give you areas that were particularly troublesome
- BEVERLY Yes and no The harbor area was not Republican country in San Pedro I guess I had about half of that already but I took up some more area in Wilmington and some of that area wasn't so good My home was still in the district but barely
- SENEY So this was the northern edge Manhattan Beach of the district by the time they got through with it
- BEVERLY Mm hm
- SENEY Well why don't we take a break?

[Begin Tape 7 Side A]

- SENEY Senator we were talking when we took a break about the '80 reapportionment and I wanted to ask you about the 1990 reapportionment You actually served on that committee in the 1990 reapportionment cycle
- BEVERLY On the Elections and Reapportionment Committee
- SENEY Yes Were you put on that specifically just for the reapportionment itself?
- BEVERLY No I asked to be put on the committee I'd never served on it and that's one reason but as a matter of fact although the committee held a lot of hearings and received a lot of material the real decisions were made by the leadership not by that committee Senator Marks was the chairman I

think

SENEY Yes he was right As I said I've interviewed him too for this project and he was quite proud of the number of hearings that were held up and down the state and how compared to previous years how open the process was As you know in previous years especially with the congressional reapportionment when [Congressman Philip] Phil Burton was still alive he really did that himself The other was pretty closely done as well when the Democrats could do it on their own in 1980 But from your observation this was all done by the leadership anyway in the 1990 reapportionment

BEVERLY Pretty much As I said we had numerous hearings and received a lot of testimony and we had a fairly sizable staff I forget how many people who were involved with all the data and drawing new maps But the real decisions were made by the leadership the final plans that were presented to us

SENEY My understanding is that the Senate plan passed the Senate without a dissenting vote the one that came out of the committee

BEVERLY That might be I don't recall

SENEY What about your own district? You must have had considerable input into your own district

- BEVERLY Well I was consulted and I agreed to a plan There were various plans proposed from time to time All of them made changes but I agreed to the plan that we voted on
- SENEY And your district still had your house in it at that point
- BEVERLY I think so
- SENEY It was the court that moved it even further south than it had been moved in 1980
- BEVERLY Right
- SENEY I guess it keeps shifting south doesn't it as these reapportionments go on Did Governor Wilson consult with you at all or his people at all on what ought to be done about the reapportionment plan?
- BEVERLY They never consulted with me individually or personally I think we had several meetings of the caucus The Republican Caucus had discussions with the governor and some of his staff
- SENEY Would it have been inaccurate to characterize the Republican Senate Caucus view of this plan that was voted out by the committee and voted out by the whole Senate that you were happy with it and you would have given the governor advice to sign that one?
- BEVERLY It's my best recollection yes
- SENEY My understanding is that Willie Brown would not permit the Senate plan

to stand alone that he insisted on both the Assembly and the Senate plans being in the same bill

BEVERLY I guess that's true I'm a little hazy on that

SENEY And that that doomed it from the governor's point of view

BEVERLY Yes that's correct

SENEY What was your feeling about letting this go to the courts again?

BEVERLY Well I was not as concerned as I had been in previous years previous reapportionments It was a fairly conservative court a very conservative court and I was optimistic there were the new rules and what seemed to be the law with reference to minority districts and all of that that we'd come out with a fair shot

SENEY Now you're referring to the federal Voting Rights Act's requirements that there were certain requirements for representation of minorities

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY And the Republicans did regard that as advantageous to them did they not?

BEVERLY They did

SENEY My understanding is the view being if you were going to make minority districts those were likely going to be heavily Democratic districts

BEVERLY Right

SENEY And so there'd be less Democrats to spread around and hence more
Republican districts

BEVERLY Exactly

SENEY Now I can't remember the man's name [Paul L. McKaskle] who was the
special master in 1990 but he was the same as the individual in 1970 who
drew up the plan and I'll have to look his name up

BEVERLY Yeah I don't remember

SENEY And when the plan came out from the court I can't imagine that you were
very pleased to see that

BEVERLY No I called my wife I said The court has acted we're moving to Long
Beach She said You're moving to Long Beach

SENEY How far away from your home was the northern boundary of the district?

BEVERLY The northern boundary split the city of Palos Verdes Estates and that's
about seven miles

SENEY So a fair distance really

BEVERLY Well in this area it is yeah in an urban area

SENEY I know some people protested to the court over the way in which their
districts were drawn Did you grumble about yours?

BEVERLY No I didn't participate

SENEY Let me ask you this general question What was the Republican Caucus

view of that plan once you had a chance to study it and look at it the one the court decided on?

BEVERLY I'm hazy on that I don't remember whether the caucus appeared in the lawsuit or not I'd have to check I don't think there was any significant opposition

SENEY Do you remember if the redistricting plan one that you all had voted out of the Senate itself had looked better to you than the one the court had prepared?

BEVERLY Probably from the standpoint of individual incumbent legislators I don't recall whether overall for the party which appeared better

SENEY Let me ask you something else about Governor Wilson and that was his appointment of Mr. Seymour to succeed him Did that catch you as flat footedly as it seemed to catch the otherse that is by surprise?

BEVERLY Well no not entirely because his name had been mentioned along with others I can't remember the others at the moment But Seymour had some long time ties with the governor through their service as mayors and they were together and active in the League of Cities so it was not a total surprise

SENEY Did it look like a good choice to you?

BEVERLY Oh I had mixed views on it John had not been my selection for

leadership in the Senate John and I went to the same high school and both had been in local government so we had some ties and we were friends but it would not have been my choice

SENEY He had just lost the statewide election the primary for lieutenant governor to [Senator] Marian [R.] Bergeson

BEVERLY That's right I'd forgotten about that

SENEY Did it look to you like a seat you're going to be able to hold onto at that point?

BEVERLY I was concerned about it and it proved to be right John as I remember in that campaign he had a certain percentage going in and it never improved and he worked his tail off worked hard as hell Who won? [U.S. Senator Diane] Feinstein

SENEY Feinstein ran for that seat the short seat He had to run for the last two years of that term and Feinstein decided she wanted to run on that one Let me ask you another general question about the Legislature something you've referred to already and that's the third estate or lobbying and the role that lobbyists play in the legislative process You know and I know that people outside the process are very critical of lobbyists generally and think that they're a big part of the problem however they may see that in the Legislature How would you respond to that kind of characterization?

BEVERLY Well when the public thinks of a lobbyist they think of a fat cat lobbyist somebody representing the oil industry or major business The lobbying corps is six or seven hundred strong It covers all kinds of fields from registered lobbyists for the PTA [Parent Teachers Association] to health services to cities counties special districts There s no understanding that for example the medical lobby raises a lot of money and donates a lot of money to candidates from their PAC s [Political Action Committees] but that money is raised from individual doctors in probably hundred dollar amounts or several hundred dollar amounts Not huge amounts I tried to educate people over the years that a lobbyist per se does not connote evil that they re important and that there are lobbyists for the consumers and there are lobbyists for the banks You can t paint with a broad brush

SENEY From your point as a senator what makes a good lobbyist?

BEVERLY Someone who works If you re carrying a bill on behalf of a sponsor who has a lobbyist you expect that lobbyist to work the committees to make your views known not sit back and leave it up to you It s a mutual undertaking He's got to be unswerving in his honesty and telling the truth You can t mislead people Those basic qualities

SENEY One of the bills that you carried that became a law this was the Limited

Liability Company Act⁵³ and this was 1994. How would you use this as an example? You would have coordinated this with lobbyists in terms of getting this passed. I would think

BEVERLY That bill was sponsored by I think a State Bar subcommittee

SENEY Yes it came out of the Business Law Section of the California Bar

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Also the California Chamber of Commerce is mentioned here. We might say that this bill is one that allows a corporation and a business partnership's income to be treated alike. Am I right in that?

BEVERLY It created a new type of business entity that was a kind of hybrid between a corporation and a partnership. It had the attributes of immunity from liability of a corporation but was taxed like a partnership.

SENEY It reduced the liability for the companies but as I read it what struck me most is that if you and I form a partnership and we make money we then divide that money and pay taxes on that as an income. If on the other hand we create a corporation we then under the old scheme would pay taxes first on the corporation's profits then we'd divide it then we'd

BEVERLY On any dividends declared to you

⁵³ S B 469 1993 1994 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 1200 (1994)

SENEY Right And then we d pay tax again

BEVERLY Right

SENEY Does this eliminate that paying tax the first time on it and then treat the
taxing like a partnership? Did I read that wrong?

BEVERLY The answer is yes I think that s right

SENEY This one which Wilson signed into law would this be one of the kind
you ve characterized here that you would work with lobbyists on this kind
of legislation that would come to you and you would try to coordinate
between the two of you on how you might get this passed?

BEVERLY The State Bar came to me because I sat on the committee that heard it at
least one of the committees that heard it I'd been involved in that
NASDAQ legislation before and also the National Conference of
Commissioners on Uniform State Laws of which I am a member from
California had been working for several years on a uniform LLP [Limited
Liability] law and I was involved with that and the State Bar knew that I
think

SENEY Right

BEVERLY Then the business community generally supported it There was very little
opposition finally The Commissioner [of Corporations] had some
problems Trial Lawyers had some problems and beyond that the

California Manufacturers the state chamber as you said and other people supported it

SENEY Now this question may make you a little uncomfortable but I want you to give me an honest answer Wouldn't they come to you because you're an influential member as well?

BEVERLY Oh that's probably a factor sure

SENEY I didn't want you to be overwhelmed with modesty and not answer that question Certainly that would be a factor There would be other people on the committee they could have picked

BEVERLY I had a 30 year record of pretty good success on bills

SENEY You've mentioned Judge Garibaldi several times who's a legendary lobbyist really and I think generally regarded as one of the best maybe even the best

BEVERLY Yeah probably so

SENEY Who else would you name as a particularly good lobbyist?

BEVERLY Well there are a lot of them I think the [California] League of Cities representatives over the years Bud Carpenter and Don Benninghoven and successors were very good

SENEY Carpenter was a member of the Legislature was he not?

BEVERLY No That's [Dennis] Denny Carpenter Dennis

SENEY That's right who's with the Manufacturers Association?

BEVERLY No he's an independent lobbyist who represents a whole host of interests
Very effective hard working former senator you're right Big O Brown
we talked about He's effective with long term experience The Medical
Association has had effective lobbyists Jay [D] Michael was very good
Paul Brown before him

SENEY Do you remember Bernard Teitelbaum?

BEVERLY Sure He was a good lobbyist

SENEY He had been George Moscone's chief staff person for quite a while

BEVERLY I used to play tennis with him He had a narrow interest He was also
active before the [California] Coastal Commission as I remember

SENEY Bernard was?

BEVERLY Yeah The gentleman that went to prison unfortunately

SENEY Clay Jackson

BEVERLY Clay Jackson was a very effective lobbyist and I never had any hint of his
wrongdoing when he dealt with me He was one of the more
knowledgeable lobbyists of the subject matter for which he was involved
There was a fellow for the realtors who was very effective now retired
but I can't think of his name A former Senate staffer who had testified a
lot before committees as did Clay Jackson Some lobbyists never testify

They bring in witnesses but don't testify themselves

SENEY Jackson and this other gentleman were well enough prepared and knowledgeable enough to do that sort of thing?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY As long as you've brought up Mr. Jackson, I do want to ask you about the shrimp scam and the ethics lapses in the Senate. Did you have any inkling that that investigation was going on before it hit the papers?

BEVERLY I don't think so. I think the FBI or somebody got subpoenas and on a weekend came to the Capitol and searched around. I think that's the first I was aware of it. I don't think I'd heard anything beforehand.

SENEY Were you approached by these people with their shrimp bill?

BEVERLY Not that I remember. I was on the committee and voted for the bill in Insurance. No, it had a different name by then. Corporations and something. It looked like a bill that was creating jobs and business in California. Nobody opposed it. Nobody lobbied me on it.

SENEY And that was not an unusual arrangement for the state to guarantee to bonds what they were suggesting.

BEVERLY No.

SENEY Others had done this. Did Alan Robbins chair that committee?

BEVERLY Well, later when the committee was split. Originally it was Insurance and

Financial Institutions then they split off Insurance and left certain business entities banking and all that with the committee I hadn't been in the Senate too long when the I&FI [Insurance and Financial Institutions] Committee opened up and Robbins expected to be appointed chairman and the Rules Committee wrestled with it because he had a reputation that was a little shady And to make a long story short the Rules Committee appointed me chairman Robbins had already put out a press release announcing his chairmanship

SENEY This would have been what year Senator? You were both elected at the same time weren't you roughly?

BEVERLY No he was in the Senate when I got there

SENEY Was he?

BEVERLY Yeah He'd won a special election⁵⁴ in the San Fernando Valley four or five years before that I don't remember what year it was I'd have to check that

SENEY Was he annoyed with you?

BEVERLY Oh very much so He complained to the caucus He had a press conference He claimed that I was going to raise money for the

⁵⁴ February 27 1973

Republican Party through the committee and all that

SENEY At that point you were not on the Rules Committee

BEVERLY No

SENEY How much did you know about what the Rules Committee was thinking in this matter

BEVERLY I was aware that I was under consideration because the Republican members of the Rules Committee told me that I forget who they were then But finally Mills who was the chairman the president pro tem then had some concern about Robbins and he was torn what to do As the Democratic leader it was difficult to go against a Democrat But either he or [Senator Robert B] Presley who was on Rules at the time

SENEY Also a Democrat

BEVERLY Yes Switched votes and voted for me

SENEY Did Mills come to you or Presley come to you or the Republican members saying we're wrestling with this? I mean obviously you know what went on

BEVERLY The Republicans did I had left to go to some conference in Palm Springs and when I got there I had a message that I had been appointed by the Rules Committee which was nice and a surprise

SENEY It must have been pleasing

BEVERLY And Robbins was not a very popular senator egomaniac and shady reputation

SENEY When you say shady reputation you weren't surprised when he was found to be in trouble

BEVERLY Robbins had a habit of holding off his vote In committee he'd refrain from voting to see what happened and often was a swing vote Same thing on the floor And he'd do a little negotiating with lobbyists whether he was seeking campaign money or whatever I'm not sure I was not surprised when there was an indictment

SENEY Did you know Mr [John] Shahabian the Senate staffer who was involved in this as well?

BEVERLY Not really no He had worked for Milton Marks at one time I think

SENEY Yes he had

BEVERLY I knew of him and seen him around as a staffer but I didn't know him

SENEY In the case of [Senator Joseph B] Montoya did that surprise you?

BEVERLY Again I was not surprised His reputation was not good And I had known him from local government circles too I think he'd been a councilman in La Puente and a good friend of mine was the city attorney of La Puente So I'm not surprised

SENEY And maybe he had said something to you the city attorney

BEVERLY Well I don't know that the city attorney knew anything about his activity in the Legislature I don't think so but he was someone to watch in local government

SENEY That's what I mean He might have brought that reputation with him when he came to the Senate Now there were a couple of other people who were implicated in this [Assemblyman] Frank Hill who when he was in the Assembly was under investigation He was then elected to the Senate and convicted as a member of the Senate Did that surprise you Frank Hill?

BEVERLY Yeah I was surprised I've forgotten now the circumstances of his

SENEY Well he was convicted essentially of taking an honorarium which was legal

BEVERLY It was legal but not in return for a vote or working on legislation That was a close case in my opinion I would have felt better if he hadn't taken an honorarium if he'd taken a campaign contribution or money to the caucus which the other Republican

SENEY [Assemblyman Partick J.] Nolan?

BEVERLY Nolan None of that money went to him personally

SENEY In Nolan's case

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY As I m sure you remember he pled guilty

BEVERLY I know I was surprised Given the climate he probably made a wise decision in terms of time in jail and with a young family and so forth Both were bright hard working legislators

SENEY My understanding is that Frank Hill was a very good consensus builder and deal maker I don t mean that in a bad way but he could put together the votes to get legislation passed and was an effective member in the Senate and in the Assembly Was that your impression of him?

BEVERLY Generally yes He had a tendency to go off on his own and try to put something together that might have differed from the leadership on the budget or something like that He was pretty good

SENEY On the whole given your years of service both in local government and in state government what is your general view of the honesty of politics in California?

BEVERLY Oh by far 99 percent of them are honest and hard working Various levels of competency but I think they re honest And government in general in California enjoys a deserved reputation for honesty

SENEY Did you ever in your career have a situation where some lobbyist came to you and discussed some matter in a way that made you uneasy?

BEVERLY No I don t think so

SENEY I mean it is hard for people outside to understand. If I'm a lobbyist for whatever group and I come to you and I want to talk to you about legislation and the next week or the week before I'm at one of your fund raisers with a table who knows worth a thousand five thousand it's hard for people on the outside not to think that something's going on here.

BEVERLY Jack Knox used to say I can't stand on a corner with a tin cup and raise finances adequate to run a campaign.

SENEY Did it bother you at all the way in which this investigation was done in the sense that the FBI came in and began offering money to people rather than say looking for crimes that had occurred apart from those which they perhaps I don't know that I want to say encourage but inspired maybe?

BEVERLY Yeah it was very close to entrapment. I felt I didn't like it. It bothered me a little bit.

SENEY Let me turn this over.

[Begin Tape 7 Side B]

SENEY I want to ask you about some legislation that you carried but there's some other kinds of things that I want to get to first and one of them was the

role you played in the Republican Party Remember I promised you I wanted to ask you about the Republican Party and the way that it worked I know that you were a delegate to the national convention in '76 the Ford Reagan year

BEVERLY Yeah that was in Kansas City

SENEY Were you a delegate to the national conventions before that?

BEVERLY Yeah I attended the '68 convention in Miami as just a spectator then '72 in Miami again I think I was a delegate Seventy six Kansas City I was a delegate or probably an alternate but I was there Eighty was Reagan's nomination wasn't it?

SENEY Yes

BEVERLY I think that was in Detroit and I had been a delegate but we had to cancel because we were still in session Eighty four was Reagan again I was a delegate Eighty eight [President George] Bush I was a delegate or alternate in New Orleans

SENEY And again in '92? For Bush the second time?

BEVERLY Yeah where was that? I think there was some reason we couldn't go

SENEY It was in Houston Texas

BEVERLY I think we all had to cancel for legislative conflicts again

SENEY How about '96? Were you a delegate in '96 as well?

BEVERLY Let's see where was that? Oh in San Diego Yes I was I was an alternate

SENEY Maybe if we could go back and talk a little about each of those and California politics in the context of presidential politics

What led you to go to the '68 convention as just a spectator? Just for the fun of it?

BEVERLY Yeah I'd always enjoyed conventions I'd attended the '60 convention of the Democrats here

SENEY In Los Angeles

BEVERLY just as a spectator I'd always watched conventions on television when conventions meant more

SENEY That's right

BEVERLY I went to the '64 convention in San Francisco just as a spectator

SENEY What did you think of that convention? Because that was kind of a watershed convention for the Republicans wasn't it?

BEVERLY Well I was very upset That was when Rockefeller was booed and Kuchel and the right wing took over that time But I was not actively involved in it I was just a lawyer citizen spectator

SENEY But beyond the offense to people that you liked in terms of Rockefeller and Kuchel did it worry you as a moderate Republican that things were

maybe moving in a direction that didn't look so good?

BEVERLY Yeah and I was convinced Goldwater was a loser and we got thrashed

SENEY In the '68 convention you were an alternate

BEVERLY No I was just a guest

SENEY That's right I'm sorry

BEVERLY Seventy-two I think I was an alternate but became a delegate Someone had to cancel out so I was a delegate

SENEY How did you get selected as an alternate then a delegate for the '72 election?

BEVERLY Well I sought it from whoever was appointed the head of the candidates campaign in California of the delegation

SENEY Explain to us how that works on the Republican side how the delegates are selected We had our presidential primary then and Nixon must have won that handily I would have thought

BEVERLY Yeah in '72 he did I'm trying to think I don't know I think Monagan was the co chairman of Nixon's campaign that year

SENEY And David Packard maybe?

BEVERLY Maybe I'm not sure But my dealings were with Monagan and I made it known I wanted to be a delegate and I was put on the list

SENEY I know Packard was the chairman of the electors I recall being in the

governor's office in December of '72 when the Republican electors met and David Packard was there as chair of the electors

BEVERLY Now it's different though

SENEY Right Well of course if Monagan is the co chair he's going to find a spot for you I'm sure Now you at that time are a member of the Assembly and as a member of the Assembly we talked about this before you're not part of the county committee but you're part of the Assembly district committee for the Republicans

BEVERLY Right As a Republican officeholder you're a member of the Assembly district committee and you're also a member of what was then known as the State Central Committee Now it's called the California Republican Party I guess As a State Central Committee member you got to appoint X number to the State Central Committee So I held those posts by virtue of my office

SENEY Did you play much of a role in the Assembly Republican Party do you remember?

BEVERLY I participated in conventions was generally on the resolutions committee of the party When I was minority leader I presided over the platform committee which then was separate and had a separate convention and drafted the platform

- SENEY This is the statewide platform committee
- BEVERLY Yeah
- SENEY If you had been speaker you'd also have done that because the legislative leader presides as a matter of course over the platform committee
- BEVERLY That's right
- SENEY And you would take part in the local platform committee because you would want to make sure that they weren't putting in planks that you couldn't live with I take it as the incumbent
- BEVERLY The local committee doesn't draft platforms as I remember They would adopt resolutions on certain issues and we tried to avoid embarrassment on those things
- SENEY Right that's what I'm thinking
- BEVERLY I didn't attend the local committee very much I was out of town most of the time I admit but I had an alternate who was there
- SENEY You would appoint someone then to take your place?
- BEVERLY Right
- SENEY And keep an eye on it for you and whatnot and vote in your stead?
- BEVERLY Yeah
- SENEY What about in the '76 convention? You were a delegate there too or did you say legislative business kept you from being there?

BEVERLY I think an alternate That was in Kansas City I was a Reagan

SENEY You were a Reagan person

BEVERLY Reagan won the primary He won the whole thing and he had all the delegates

SENEY Despite the fact he d won the primary did you think that it was wise to replace Ford at that point?

BEVERLY No I had problems but we were loyalists to the governor the former governor and Ken Maddy had campaigned for Reagan in New Hampshire I think All things considered we supported Reagan

SENEY You know at the end of the convention the voting Reagan came to the California Delegation and gave a speech that s been widely reported as maybe one of the best of his career

BEVERLY To the whole convention

SENEY Was that to the whole convention?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Oh I m sorry Yes it was the whole convention Do you recall that?

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Apparently it was quite emotional

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Can you describe it a little bit and give us a flavor of it?

BEVERLY Well I really can't I can't remember details of it but it was emotional and it was designed to unify and it did It was a personal blow to him but he spoke passionately and more or less off the cuff as I remember

SENEY And phrases like "keep the faith" and "don't despair" to his supporters I mean it was partially a unity speech but it also had about it you know of keeping his flock

BEVERLY I'll be back

SENEY Yeah exactly Did you have that I'll be back feeling from the speech?

BEVERLY Yeah And I was fairly close to the family at that convention Maureen Reagan was there whom we had helped and we were friends with

SENEY How did you get to know her? You've mentioned that you helped her on campaigns and she helped you as well

BEVERLY I met her in campaigns somewhere along the line I don't know where She worked in Ken Maddy's campaign rather hard Of course that was 1978 That came later But we'd become friends in Sacramento She'd come up and visit and we'd play tennis I forget all the tie-ins but we visited the Reagan's suite frequently and sat in their box on occasion

SENEY This is at the '76 convention?

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY And he came pretty close to beating Ford

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY Did you then work in the Ford campaign?

BEVERLY Yeah I don't remember exactly what I did but I was a supporter and worker and appeared at various functions and things

SENEY And Ford carried California did he not?

BEVERLY Let's see I think so

SENEY I think he did

BEVERLY We had over the years campaigned statewide on a little media tour that Bill Bagley chaired We had campaigned for Nixon we'd campaigned for Reagan We would visit newspapers and TV outlets and radio outlets all over the state particularly in smaller areas where it made a little bit of news for three or four state legislators to show up in town and we'd get spots on TV We might have done that for Ford too I think we did

SENEY So you'd show up say in Salinas a place like that maybe and visit the newspaper and give interviews at the local radio station and television when that was available?

BEVERLY Right

SENEY And you must have thought that was effective if you'd done it in a number of years

BEVERLY Yeah Bagley came up with the idea and put it together I remember there

was someone who worked for him that did the work of setting up the meetings and what have you

SENEY Well he was a pretty good political tactician wasn't he?

BEVERLY Bill?

SENEY Yeah

BEVERLY I guess In fact Pete Wilson toured with us on some of those particularly down south We went all over from Eureka to Chula Vista

SENEY Were any of the people who toured with you interested then in subsequently running statewide campaigns themselves?

BEVERLY Well Bagley ran statewide Pete did I can't say that they knew at the time they were [Senator] Fred [W] Marler [Jr] who later became an appellate justice was among them Maddy [Assemblyman] Gordon [W] Duffy Chappie We'd hit different areas We'd usually bring in one local guy

SENEY Because I would think that would be a good way to get to know the local party people and the kind of people you'd have to kind of cultivate and get to know if you wanted to put together a statewide campaign

BEVERLY That's right And we'd see those same people at conventions We'd only meet twice a year I guess

SENEY What about the '80 convention? You said at that time you had to cancel

out because of the press of legislative business

BEVERLY Yeah we were still in session I was in the Senate of course I think one senator Ollie Speraw who had taken Duke's place in Long Beach went back but had to turn around to come back to California I think the budget was still up in the air a close vote So I didn't get involved there at all

SENEY Was that a disappointment?

BEVERLY Yeah because it was Reagan

SENEY And they're fun aren't they? Did you have a good time at the conventions?

BEVERLY Oh yeah a lot of partying a lot of wining and dining
One thing we haven't mentioned I was caucus chairman of the Assembly when Ford visited Sacramento and was almost gunned down by the Manson family member

SENEY [Annette] Squeaky Fromme

BEVERLY He had spoken as I remember at the host breakfast which is coming up again it made me think of it and was on his way from the Convention Center to the governor's office to meet with Jerry Brown and then he was to meet with a joint Senate Assembly Republican Caucus and that major event occurred But I had the honor as caucus chairman of presiding over that caucus with the President of the United States who had moments

before been almost a victim

SENEY So he went on with his schedule

BEVERLY Yeah Remarkable I was unaware at the caucus of what had happened
He took it in stride It didn't show We learned later what happened

SENEY And you must have worked then in '80 for Reagan here in California
although that can't have been much of a job I wouldn't think Reagan was
so popular here

BEVERLY Right I think we did a tour for Reagan one of those Bagley tours I'm a
little hazy on that

SENEY And '84 again you ?

BEVERLY Yeah '84 where'd we say the convention was?

SENEY I'm trying to remember It was Reagan's renomination but it wasn't here
in California was it?

BEVERLY I can't remember I should

SENEY It wasn't in Miami

BEVERLY I don't think so The next one was Bush in '88

SENEY Once you started being a delegate and an alternate to these conventions
and you of course obviously continued to be in the Senate is it pretty
much automatic that you're going to be a delegate the next time too?

BEVERLY Well yes and no depending on who heads the delegation and your

interest. There's a limit on the number of delegation alternates from each congressional district. I think, and the problem down here is there are so many heavyweights living in places like Palos Verdes and the peninsula that it was a little bit difficult to wedge your way in.

SENEY: When you say "heavyweights," you probably mean contributors.

BEVERLY: Big contributors.

SENEY: And this must be a sort of plum reward. I would think, for a big contributor to name them as a delegate to the convention.

BEVERLY: Mm hm.

SENEY: Did you work much on the Bush campaign in '88?

BEVERLY: Well, I did some speaking and campaigning for Bush. Bill Campbell was the co-chairman of the campaign. Senator Campbell, so we worked with him. I can't remember the specific functions. They were fund raisers, dinners and things.

SENEY: And again in '92, probably for Bush again?

BEVERLY: Mm hm.

SENEY: What about the [Bob] Dole campaign in '96? Did you take part in that?

BEVERLY: I was an alternate and I'd endorsed Dole, but I really didn't do much in the campaign.

SENEY: Did you think he had much of a chance here in California?

- BEVERLY Well my spirits were buoyed I was optimistic when Jack Kemp was selected as the VP candidate That soon fizzled out Kemp turned out not to be near as good as we thought he d be
- SENEY Yes he wasn't the campaigner people thought he was going to be
- BEVERLY I like Jack but I always thought he was a bore He d get into numbers and economics and I d soon close my eyes and he continued that way all through the campaign
- SENEY Now in '92 the Bush people seemed to write California off Do you remember that? That most people thought that they had simply given up on California with the exception of making fund raising trips out
- BEVERLY That s right and that was a factor in our earlier conversation about my race in Long Beach or in the new district The fact that there was such a weak presidential campaign contributed to the closeness of my race I think It was terrible
- SENEY Well Clinton carried that area in '92
- BEVERLY I think so
- SENEY For the first time a Democrat had carried that in I don t know how long and with somebody stronger at the top of the ticket running a stronger campaign that would have made a difference you think
- BEVERLY I think so

SENEY Did you consider your activities in the national conventions and presidential politics as an important part of your responsibilities or just a more minor part?

BEVERLY Oh I guess a minor part On the presidential conventions campaigns it was kind of a what would you call it? a reward or side benefit of being in office if you enjoyed that and I did

SENEY Let me ask you about some of the legislation that you've carried One of the things that you coauthored was death penalty legislation

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY What's your general outlook on the death penalty?

BEVERLY Well I've always supported it I thought it was a deterrent I still think so My views haven't changed Secondly the people amended the Constitution voting in favor of it in California ⁵⁵ I thought it was an obligation for that having been done for us to enact a capital punishment law I was ready to vote whatever year that was that we restored it It was Deukmejian's bill⁵⁶ he was in the Senate The capital punishment bill passed the Senate It came to the Assembly and was lodged in committee

⁵⁵ Proposition 17 (November 1972)

⁵⁶ S B 450 1973 1974 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 719 (1973)

and didn't have the votes to get out and for the only time in my career I was prepared to vote to remove a bill from committee notwithstanding the action of the committee. I felt that as I said there was an obligation to enact it as long as the people had voted to amend the Constitution.

When it appeared that the House or the Assembly might vote the bill out of committee it put a lot of Democrats and others on the spot for voting against it on a motion to withdraw. The Democrats agreed to let the bill out without capital punishment in it. But I carried the amendments to the bill that restored capital punishment. I was minority leader at the time too. That was why Duke had me carry the amendment or asked me to carry the amendment.

SENEY Is this because the Democrats didn't want to see a vote to remove a bill from a committee and establish that precedent?

BEVERLY Well maybe and probably more important the Democrats didn't want to appear to vote against capital punishment.

SENEY So you backed them in a corner politically?

BEVERLY That's what happened. It was a tough vote. Districts like Cerritos Lakewood where I remember [Assemblyman] Frank Vicencia was the assemblyman. Frank would have been loyal to the Democrats probably and opposed it. But it wouldn't have helped him it would have hurt him.

politically and he wanted to vote for it and in a number of situations like that in marginal districts

SENEY Right I guess sometimes that's the way you have to work to get things done is to raise the political stakes

BEVERLY Yeah I had chaired the Criminal Justice Committee in the Assembly under Moretti and we had death penalty bills that had hearing after hearing and they'd always fail That committee at the time had [Assemblyman] Alan Sieroty Henry Waxman [Assemblyman Robert W] Bob Crown a majority of liberals I think Waxman was the swing vote

SENEY Well that was done purposefully by the Democrats wasn't it?

BEVERLY Oh yeah

SENEY To stack the Criminal Procedure Committee in a liberal fashion to kill off that kind of legislation

BEVERLY I remember once Yvonne Brathwaite was on the committee when she was an assemblywoman and [Assemblyman] Leroy [F] Greene had a bill to in some fashion legalize prostitution I forget what form it took We were going to put the bill out The Republicans wanted to put the bill out to force the Democrats to vote on it and in the end Yvonne Brathwaite votes against the bill and we couldn't get it out even though one of us was prepared to vote for the bill

SENEY Just to force the Democrats to take a position on it

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY You know in recent years there's been not only the death penalty but there's been so many additions and additions to penalties in the criminal process and the number of prisoners in the state prison system has grown tremendously. How do you think we're doing with the crime and prison problems?

[Begin Tape 8 Side A]

BEVERLY Well crime dropped down last year major crime across the board as I recall it. But that's really the first time and I don't know whether it's an improvement in the economy that caused it or whether our increased penalties and expanded imprisonment have been successful or not. I doubt it. Crime still pays. The old adage "crime doesn't pay" is inaccurate. A very small percentage of criminals are apprehended and a smaller percentage convicted and imprisoned. So it's not working.

On the other hand politically it's difficult to vote against enhancements and increased sentences. I supported the changes in the criminal law that imposed the fixed sentences against the indeterminate. I

don't know whether that's been successful or not. There are arguments on that. I don't know what the answer is. I suppose education, protecting and enhancing the economy, but it's difficult.

SENEY: From your perspective on the Finance and Appropriations committees as you look at the state budget, certainly prisons and corrections has been one of the areas that's been growing and they're almost fixed costs. I mean once you begin to build prisons and imprison people, you can't say, "Well, we're going to cut it 20 percent and let 20 percent of them out." How do you see this recent approach to crime in terms of the impact on the state budget and state funding?

BEVERLY: Well, you know, there's very little discretion in the State Legislature over there's a small percentage of the budget over which you have discretion. This is a discretionary area, but as you indicate, once the prisons are established, they're there, they're going to be occupied and run. It's a significant effect on the budget. I guess the only alternative is to explore conditional release of prisoners and that sort of thing. What do they call it? Not house arrest.

SENEY: I know. I can't think of the term either. Where they put a bracelet on.

BEVERLY: Yeah, that sort of thing.

SENEY: I saw recently that there's some talk about building more private prison.

beds in California. How does that strike you as an option?

BEVERLY I think it's worth trying. Let's see how it works. The correctional officers oppose it strongly, and they're a very effective, heavily contributing union as we know in recent years.

SENEY They're perhaps the most powerful of all the public employees in California at this point, aren't they?

BEVERLY Probably so. A close run with the teachers union. But they're big contributors and they're active.

SENEY Did they contribute to your campaigns?

BEVERLY You know, historically over the years I didn't think they did. The last time they did, I think I actually reminded them that they hadn't in the past. I never got along particularly with their leader. I forget his name. But I had supported the prisons and the budget to their benefit always, as had the governors.

SENEY Representing the district that you do in the Los Angeles area, do you have a perspective on gang activity and how that's increased in recent years and the problems it's caused?

BEVERLY Well, I hadn't seen much in the way of gang activity down here until the last year or two. I see some, and I'm told more gang activity occurring in Redondo Beach, down in the harbor, certainly in Long Beach. The rest of

the district we have not seen any So it's increasing

SENEY Let me ask you about another bill you carried Senate Bill 979 in 1989
This was a pay raise bill to raise the pay from \$40,800 and change to
\$44,894 ⁵⁷

BEVERLY Legislative pay

SENEY Yes right Exactly This is not always the most popular bill to carry Am
I right in thinking that it's given to someone to carry who's generally
regarded as being a fairly safe seat?

BEVERLY That's generally true and someone who's willing to carry it There's
always been an understanding for the most part at least among the
leadership and members that people shouldn't grandstand on the pay
issue that nobody's going to take care of us if we don't This is before the
new pay commission We would select an author the Senate one time
Assembly the next time maybe find someone who was willing to carry it
who's got a reasonable chance of getting support and expecting every
member except those in unsafe districts to vote for it

Now it didn't always work I don't think the pay raise was
defeated but particularly among the conservatives many of them wouldn't

⁵⁷ S B 979 1989 1990 Reg Sess Cal Stats Ch 623 (1989)

vote for it but accepted it which always galled me I was very upset with

I remember the senator from Azusa Monrovia area [Senator Richard] Mountjoy Very safe district always voted against it and a number of others

SENEY But accepted it

BEVERLY Oh yeah The young man from the valley who ran for controller who s now back in the Assembly

SENEY [Assemblyman Tom] McClintock

BEVERLY Yeah He strongly opposed it and sounded off against the pay raise His wife sent me a note thanking me and he accepted it

SENEY That is funny By grandstanding you mean the leadership expects the member is just going to keep quiet about it they re not going to get some press on it and put out a release and essentially embarrass everyone over it

BEVERLY Sure

SENEY Do you remember in 79 when Carol Hallett was Assembly minority leader and there was a pay raise bill up that she sidetracked and killed in the Assembly?

BEVERLY I don't remember that She killed one huh?

SENEY Yeah I m pretty certain if it wasn t killed it was badly damaged and she made the kind of noises about it that are not appropriate Now I m

thinking it was killed but perhaps it wasn't but subsequently Deukmejian appointed her to be head of the State Parks Department I believe Do you remember that?

BEVERLY Yeah that's right She ran for lieutenant governor in '82 I guess when he was elected

SENEY Right And subsequent to that he appointed her State Parks director and the Senate killed her nomination

BEVERLY That's right I remember that

SENEY Now I'm told that there was a connection between her activities on that pay raise her grandstanding on that pay raise and rejection of her by the Senate

BEVERLY I don't remember that I had a policy myself of always supporting former members of the Legislature to appointments unless they were horribly unqualified or an ignoramus or a thief I supported [Jerome R] Jerry Waldie for example for appointment to the Agricultural Commission [Alfred H] Song to something else

SENEY Al Song is not someone you would generally admire?

BEVERLY I respected him as one of the best chairmen of Judiciary we ever had He didn't enjoy the best reputation for ethics

SENEY Did he end up in some difficulty?

BEVERLY No I think he was the subject of investigation and Montoya ran against him based on that investigation but nothing ever came of it That was one happy former senator when Montoya was sent away

SENEY I m sure

BEVERLY I remember calling Al or seeing him at Fats or something

SENEY What did he say? Do you remember?

BEVERLY I think he smiled smiled a lot

SENEY You re smiling too

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY You enjoyed the irony as well?

BEVERLY A little bit Song lives in the Swallow s Nest complex where I live in Sacramento so I see him every now and then

SENEY He s a lobbyist or something at this point?

BEVERLY He s a hearing officer in an administrative law judge s office

SENEY Were there cases where you voted against gubernatorial appointees?

BEVERLY Oh I m sure there were I can t think of a particular one When I was on the Rules Committee if an appointee appeared shaky we would try to get the governor to withdraw it rather than go to a vote and that often happened But I voted against some

SENEY There was a bill in '95 Senate Bill 435⁵⁸ that you put through that offered a reward of \$100,000 for anyone who kills a police officer

BEVERLY I probably carried that for the administration. I don't remember. There must have been a specific recent crime that brought that to a head. I don't remember what it was. Ninety-five?

SENEY Yes. I have '95 down here on that.

BEVERLY I don't know. I don't remember.

SENEY I think I wrote the date down properly. There's another bill I wanted to ask you about and that is one that you and Senator Dills introduced together in '85 and this would clear the way for a trash-to-energy plant in Long Beach.⁵⁹ The Waste Management Board was blocking it because L.A. County didn't have an updated plan.

BEVERLY I don't remember the details of it but it was a district bill. Dills and I represented jointly the harbor and Long Beach and Long Beach wanted it and it appeared to be reasonable and we coauthored it.

SENEY Well, I bring it up for that reason. That is, that the two of you having adjoining districts working together on some kind of problem. Was that a

⁵⁸ Unable to verify.

⁵⁹ S.B. 1463 1985-1986 Reg. Sess. Cal. Stats. Ch. 51 (1989).

common sort of thing between the two of you?

BEVERLY Frequently At one point we shared Torrance we shared Long Beach and we shared Redondo Beach I think and we often worked together on things We had a very good relationship And our offices got along well my district office in Redondo and his in Gardena We got along much better than we did with the Republic assemblyman from San Pedro for example [Assemblyman Gerald N] Gerry Felando There was a personality problem there

SENEY With Felando do you mean?

BEVERLY Yeah But I d known Dills for many years as a judge and as a legislator and his brother was also in the Legislature at one time from Gardena So we worked very well together

SENEY Were there times when the delegation the Assembly Senate delegation of Los Angeles County would get together on legislation and put something forward or push something?

BEVERLY There was a Los Angeles caucus that met irregularly and they very seldom if ever put their muscles together and were a force We were too divided philosophically and every other which way Some of us tried from time to time to unite the caucus more The same thing was true in Congress The California Delegation couldn't get its act together

sometimes Offhand I can't think of a single issue where we got together and used our muscle which was from the standpoint of the area unfortunate

SENEY You mentioned Richard Richards yesterday who was the lone senator from Los Angeles County before the 1967 reapportionment and one of the people that I interviewed was Paul Lunardi who was in the Senate during that period before the 1967 reapportionment I'd like you to comment on a point he made to me about that He said that as odd as it may seem that Los Angeles in a way had more influence when it had a single senator than when it had a whole bunch that the Senate had given Richard Richards or whoever was the incumbent more staff than any other senator had recognizing what a huge area they had And that when there was a problem of the county there was only one senator to say yes we want this or no we don't want it

BEVERLY That's right it was a powerful position

SENEY Would you agree with his analysis of that?

BEVERLY Very much so There were how many assemblymen? Thirty or so from Los Angeles I forget And those bills pretty well channeled through Richards If he wanted them fine if he didn't want them they were gone for the most part That's the way it worked

SENEY And isn't that generally the case in the Legislature with bills that have a local impact alone like this trash to energy bill and Long Beach that if you and Senator Dills and Assemblyman Felando are supportive of it that the Legislature will go ahead and approve it?

BEVERLY Yes. On a local district bill that's true.

SENEY So it's important for you people to work together.

BEVERLY Right.

SENEY But you say that Felando was not an easy individual to work with.

BEVERLY No. He was just a difficult personality. He'd fly off the handle in fits of rage the way Lockyer used to.

SENEY I'm sorry. I can't remember. Is he a Republican or a Democrat?

BEVERLY Republican. He was defeated by Betty Karnette who's now the senator for my area.

SENEY Have you had many chats with Betty Karnette? Does she communicate with you at all?

BEVERLY Now?

SENEY Yeah.

BEVERLY Yeah.

SENEY Seek your advice?

BEVERLY My secretary for many years. Judy Smith is now working for her. So

Judy sends me newsletters and things of interest and I talk to their office and Betty's called me for some advice on occasion. We get along very well. And we got along well when I was in the Senate and she was in the Assembly.

SENEY It's not uncommon, is it, for someone like your long time secretary to go to work for your successor?

BEVERLY I guess not, although it's probably less frequent than having worked for a Republican, you'll join a Democrat. That may be the new Democrat's decision not to hire. But Judy's been up there for 30 years. I guess.

SENEY And there wouldn't be very many people outside of yourself who would know as much about this senatorial district as she would. I would think.

BEVERLY She had only worked for two legislators her whole career. Bob Monagan and me. She's got a couple of years to put in before she can gain retirement. She's a Republican but she's reasonably happy with Betty, she says.

SENEY Well, it's possible to do that kind of job without much partisan leaning one way or the other.

BEVERLY Sure.

SENEY Let me ask you about your service on the Rules Committee. How did that appointment come about?

- BEVERLY Well when Ellis announced he was not going to run for reelection and he was on Rules Committee he'd been elected by the caucus Maddy and Campbell I remember them coming to me to talk to me and asking me if I would take it if I wanted to be on it and I agreed
- SENEY Did it take you long to think about it?
- BEVERLY No I agreed right on the spot It was something different and new The Rules Committee runs the place there are certain perks that go with it although being in the minority on the Rules Committee is not like being in the majority
- SENEY What are the perks that go with it?
- BEVERLY Oh after the leadership first selection of office space additional staff Pretty much where you want to sit on the floor where you want to park in the garage all those little things
- SENEY Well those are important aren't they though in terms of indicating the pecking order of the place
- BEVERLY They are I never worried about places in the garage
- SENEY Nearest the elevator do you mean?
- BEVERLY You'll notice the Rules Committee members are probably most of them up on the fifth floor which is the so called penthouse of the Capitol
- SENEY So did that mean that you moved up to a nicer office with that?

BEVERLY Mm hm

SENEY And that's not something you'd turn down is it to say Oh I'll keep my old office I mean given the sort of unwritten rules and the protocol of the Senate you would go ahead and take that larger office because it goes with the position

BEVERLY Yeah and it was a better office More space for staff and a better view of Capitol park not inside Like an outside stateroom on a ship as against an inside stateroom

SENEY Right You're not in the airshaft

BEVERLY That's right And you're involved in the whole operation the staffing setting salaries numbers of aides district offices pay It's interesting Plus the governor's appointments

SENEY Technically all the senate staff works for the Rules Committee doesn't it?

BEVERLY Yes

SENEY So in other words if I'm a staff assistant to whatever senator it happens to be say Senator Maddy or whomever Maddy may make a recommendation on what my salary ought to be but the real people who are going to set my salary are going to be you and the other members of the Rules Committee How would you decide those kind of questions?

BEVERLY Well we'd generally accept the recommendations of the chief

administrative officer [CAO] I would tell the Republicans in caucus that if they had some request to make to let me know so I could be on top of it and work with the CAO and the chairman and resolve it The chairman would generally go along with the wishes of the Republican members the Republican members of the Rules Committee as to Republican problems and requests

SENEY Does the Rules Committee meet in private?

BEVERLY On personnel matters

SENEY So on discussing salary matters it would meet in private

BEVERLY Yeah

SENEY Do you have written agendas of what the Rules Committee is going to do?

BEVERLY Yeah it's in the Daily File like everything else

SENEY What would be a typical agenda for the Rules Committee?

BEVERLY Well governor's appointments hearings on governor's appointments and some we did not require the appointee to be present with a less important position and no opposition We assigned bills to committee We established a calendar when we meet what the deadlines are to be on legislation within the rules vacations recesses Requests for members for hiring personnel that sort of thing or request for promotions We would hear a lot of resolutions or a resolution to support the Olympics in

NAMES LIST
State Government Oral History Program

Interviewee Senator Robert Beverly

List Compiler/Editor Donald B Seney

Cooperating Institution Oral History Program The Center for California Studies
California State University Sacramento

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